CRIME MUST LOSE

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OCT. No. 9

10¢

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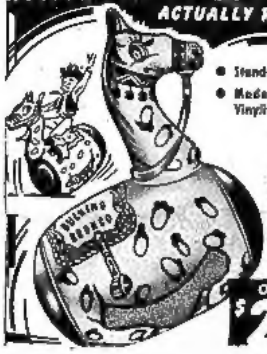

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NICK DORGAN... The BOSS

YEAH, THAT'S ME, NICK DORGAN, **THE BOSS!** AN' DON'T NONE OF YAH FORGET IT!

A TRUE STORY OF VICIOUS GANG WARS, HOT-LEAD HOODLUMS, AND THE POWER-MAD **KINGPIN OF THE UNDERWORLD!**

TIME: 1923!
PLACE: THE MID-WEST!

JEREY ROBINSON

8803

AMERICA, IN THE TWENTIES, RIDING ON THE CREST OF A POST-WAR PROSPERITY, WAS EASY PREY TO THE GANGS THAT FLOURISHED UNDER THE O'BANNIONS, THE CAPONES AND THEIR KILLERS....

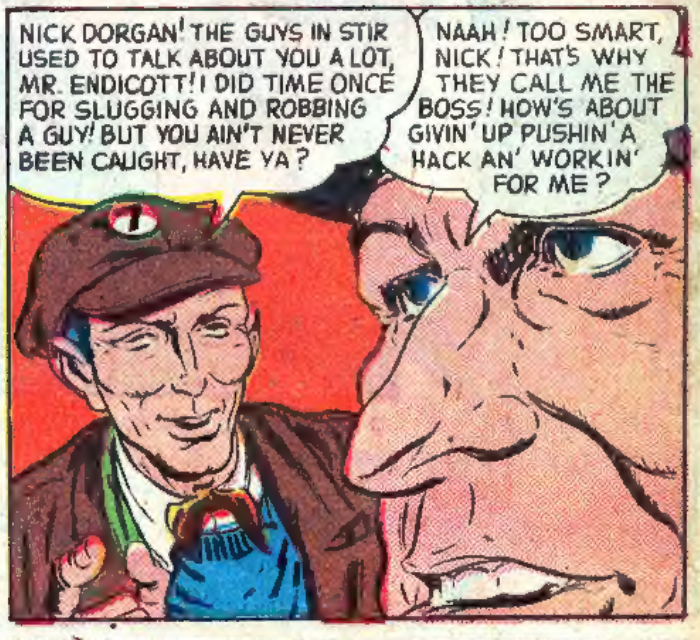
RUM-RUNNING, THE BOOTLEGGING OF ILLEGAL ALCOHOL, WAS THE PAY-OFF FOR THE GANGS! HEAD MAN OF THE MID-WEST BOOTLEG ORGANIZATION WAS FLIP ENDICOTT, RUTHLESS, TOUGH.... A KILLER!

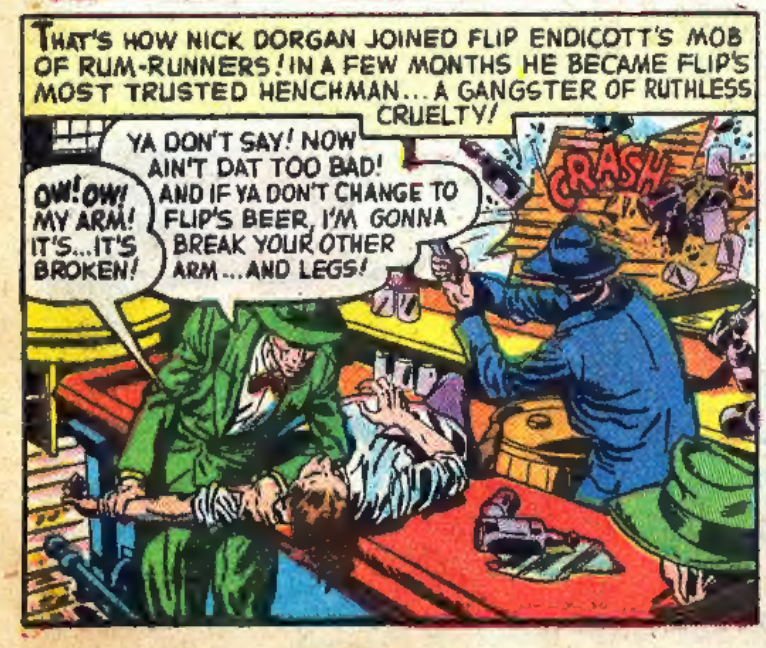
ALL NAMES AND PLACES IN THESE TRUE-TO-LIFE STORIES ARE FICTITIOUS
ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN ACTUAL PERSONS OR PLACES AND THOSE USED IN THESE STORIES IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL

ON MAY 23, 1923, RIVAL GUNMEN TRIED TO SHOOT DOWN FLIP ENDICOTT AT MAIN AND SPRING, FAILING IN SPITE OF BURSTS OF MACHINE GUN FIRE!
YAH MISSED HIM, YA DUMB OX!
THE RAT GOT IN THE DOORWAY TOO FAST, BUT I THINK I WINGED HIM!

THE NEXT MOMENT A HACKIE DROVE UP TO THE WOUNDED GANG BOSS!
WHAT HAPPENED, BUD? HEY, YOU'RE HURT!
YEAH... LOOK, FELLAH, TAKE ME TO 28TH AND GRAND... AND THERE'S A GRAND IN IT FOR YA IF YA DO IT FAST AND KEEP YER MOUTH SHUT!
25¢

A THOUSAND DOLLARS LOOKED VERY BIG TO THE CAB DRIVER AND HE OBEYED FLIP, DRIVING HIM TO THE OFFICE OF A GANG DOCTOR...
SAY, YOU'RE FLIP ENDICOTT, THE BIG RACKETEER, AIN'TCHA?
YOU GOT HERE JUST IN TIME, ENDICOTT!
THAT'S MY NAME, AND I'M GONNA DO A LOT FOR YOU FOR HELPIN' ME! WHAT'S YER NAME?


NICK DORGAN! THE GUYS IN STIR USED TO TALK ABOUT YOU A LOT, MR. ENDICOTT! I DID TIME ONCE FOR SLUGGING AND ROBBING A GUY! BUT YOU AIN'T NEVER BEEN CAUGHT, HAVE YA?
NAAH! TOO SMART, NICK! THAT'S WHY THEY CALL ME THE BOSS! HOW'S ABOUT GIVIN' UP PUSHIN' A HACK AN' WORKIN' FOR ME?


THAT'S HOW NICK DORGAN JOINED FLIP ENDICOTT'S MOB OF RUM-RUNNERS! IN A FEW MONTHS HE BECAME FLIP'S MOST TRUSTED HENCHMAN... A GANGSTER OF RUTHLESS CRUELTY!
OW! OW! MY ARM! IT'S... IT'S BROKEN!
YA DON'T SAY! NOW AIN'T DAT TOO BAD! AND IF YA DON'T CHANGE TO FLIP'S BEER, I'M GONNA BREAK YOUR OTHER ARM... AND LEGS!
CRASH

UNDER HIS COMMAND, FLIP'S GANG HIJACKED THE LIQUOR OF RIVAL BOSS, MUGGSY HARPER!
MUGGSY AIN'T GONNA LIKE DIS!
TELL THAT PUNK BOSS OF YOURS THAT IF HE DOESN'T LIKE IT I'M RAMMIN' A MACHINE GUN DOWN HIS THROAT! C'MON, BOYS, LOAD 'ER UP!

DORGAN WAS SOON SECOND IN POWER ONLY TO FLIP ENDICOTT! BUT THERE WAS ONE PERSON WHO COULDN'T SHARE IN HIS CRIMINAL LIFE... HIS WIFE BERRYL...

NICK, WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU? YOU'VE BECOME NOTHING BUT A CHEAP GANGSTER! I DON'T WANT THIS LIFE FOR US OR FOR OUR BABY!

BUT I'M DOING IT FOR YOU AND THE KID, BERRYL! LOOK IT ALL DIS MONEY! WHEN DID I EVER MAKE SO MUCH DOUGH PUSHIN' A HACK?

THERE'S WHAT I THINK OF SUCH DIRTY, BLOODY MONEY! MURDER MONEY! GANGSTER MONEY!..I WANT NO PART OF IT... OR OF YOU, NICK DORGAN!

BABY, DON'T SAY THAT! I'M DOIN' ALL THIS FOR YOU! YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK OF YOU! I'M JUST CRAZY FOR YOU! I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOU!

WELL, YOU WILL LIVE WITHOUT ME UNLESS YOU GIVE UP THIS DIRTY BUSINESS RIGHT AWAY AND CALL IT QUITS!

I..I CAN'T..NOBODY QUITS ON FLIP ENDICOTT!

WHEN NICK CAME HOME FROM HIS NEXT JOB, THE HOUSE WAS EMPTY EXCEPT FOR A NOTE...

DEAR NICK:
YOU'RE NOT THE MAN I MARRIED! I'M NOT GOING TO BRING UP OUR BABY THE SON OF A GANGSTER! WHEN YOU READ THIS PAT AND I WILL BE ON A SHIP ON OUR WAY HOME TO IRELAND! GOOD-BYE!
BERRYL!

HARD AND TOUGH AS DORGAN HAD BECOME, THE ONLY TWO THINGS IN THIS WORLD HE REALLY LOVED WERE HIS WIFE AND SON! NOW BOTH WERE LOST TO HIM FOREVER!

WHAT'S THE GOOD OF THIS WITHOUT THEM? I GOTTA MAKE A LOT MORE DOUGH AND GO TO IRELAND AND BRING 'EM BACK! NOTHING'S ANY GOOD IF I AIN'T GOT MY FAMILY WITH ME!

SO DORGAN, TRYING TO FORGET HIS MISERY, DROWNED HIMSELF IN MORE WORK FOR THE GANG AND IN DRIVING FOR THE POWER THAT WOULD BRING HIM HIS FAMILY AND HIS PEACE OF MIND!

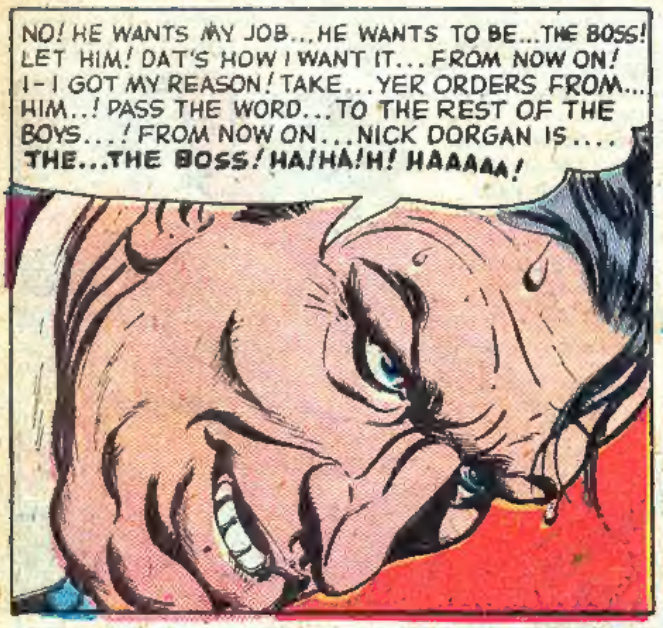
HERE'S YER CUT FOR THIS WEEK, NICK!

DAT AIN'T ENOUGH! I WANT MORE! A LOT MORE!

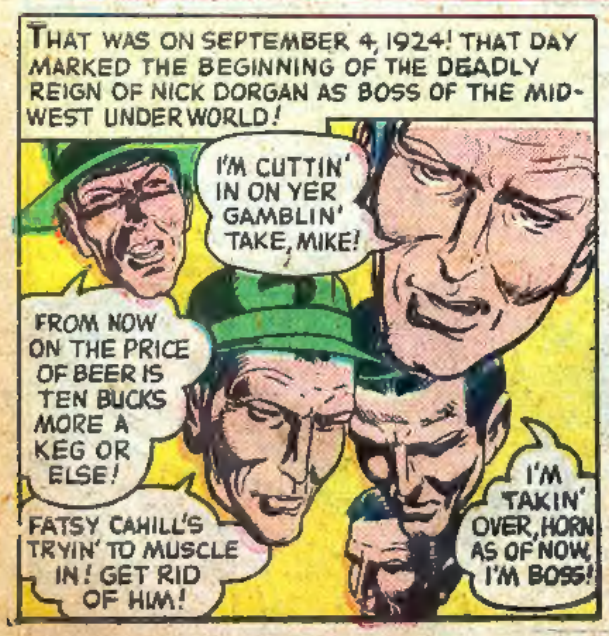
WHAT'S EATIN' YA, NICK? WHAT D'YA WANT?

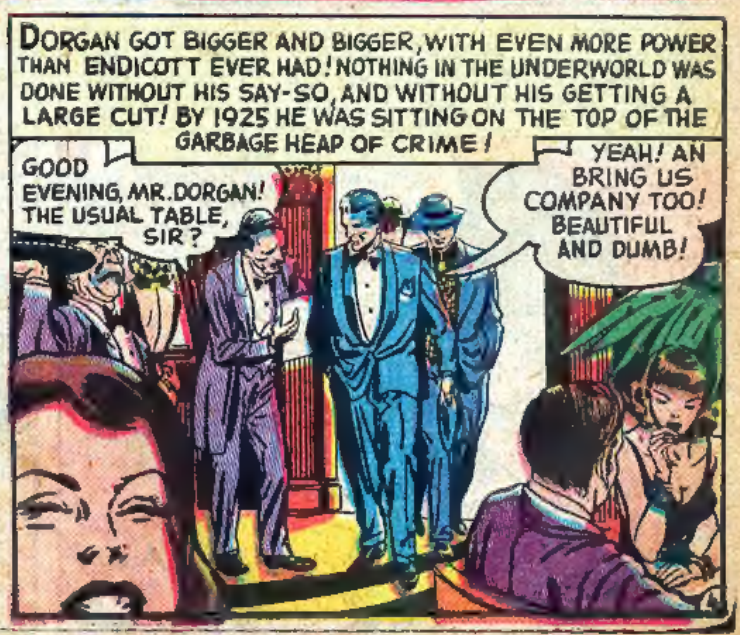
OHHH!
I WANT YER JOB, FLIP! YER RETIRIN'!

N-NO,..KIT... LET HIM...ALONE... DON'T... DO... ANYTHING TO...HIM!
BUT, BOSS... HE PLUGGED YAH! YER GONNA CROAK..! I KIN DROP 'IM WHERE HE STANDS!


NO! HE WANTS MY JOB...HE WANTS TO BE...THE BOSS! LET HIM! DAT'S HOW I WANT IT... FROM NOW ON! I-I GOT MY REASON! TAKE...YER ORDERS FROM... HIM..! PASS THE WORD...TO THE REST OF THE BOYS...! FROM NOW ON...NICK DORGAN IS.... THE...THE BOSS! HA!HA!H! HAAAAA!

HE'S DEAD! FUNNY... WHY DID HE TELL ME TO LAY OFF YOU...? HE SEEMED TO THINK IT WAS A JOKE! LOOK HE'S STILL GOT A GRIN ON HIS KISSER!
OKAY, KIT! YOU HEARD HIM! I'M THE BOSS NOW AND I'M GIVIN' THE ORDERS! DUMP HIS BODY IN THE RIVER... AND GET THE GANG OVER HERE! I WANNA LET 'EM KNOW WHO'S RUNNIN' DIS MOB! I'M THE BOSS...SEE?


THAT WAS ON SEPTEMBER 4, 1924! THAT DAY MARKED THE BEGINNING OF THE DEADLY REIGN OF NICK DORGAN AS BOSS OF THE MID-WEST UNDERWORLD!
I'M CUTTIN' IN ON YER GAMBLIN' TAKE, MIKE!
FROM NOW ON THE PRICE OF BEER IS TEN BUCKS MORE A KEG OR ELSE!
FATSY CAHILL'S TRYIN' TO MUSCLE IN! GET RID OF HIM!
I'M TAKIN' OVER, HORN AS OF NOW, I'M BOSS!


DORGAN GOT BIGGER AND BIGGER, WITH EVEN MORE POWER THAN ENDICOTT EVER HAD! NOTHING IN THE UNDERWORLD WAS DONE WITHOUT HIS SAY-SO, AND WITHOUT HIS GETTING A LARGE CUT! BY 1925 HE WAS SITTING ON THE TOP OF THE GARBAGE HEAP OF CRIME!
GOOD EVENING, MR. DORGAN! THE USUAL TABLE, SIR?
YEAH! AN BRING US COMPANY TOO! BEAUTIFUL AND DUMB!

HE TRIED HARD TO FORGET THE IRISH COLLEEN WHO HAD LEFT HIM... BUT HE NEVER COULD... HIS DAYS AND NIGHTS WERE AGONIES OF REMEMBERING THE PEACE HE HAD KNOWN WITH HER LOVE!

YEAH... I GOT A LOT... BUT IT AIN'T WORTH IT... IT AIN'T WORTH IT!

HUH? WHADJA SAY, BOSS?

LEAVE HIM ALONE! HE ALWAYS TALKS LIKE DAT WHEN HE'S DRUNK! SOME GUY! BOSS OF THE RACKETS! WOW!

THEN WORD CAME FROM IRELAND THAT BERRYL WAS DYING AND WANTED TO SEE HIM TO SAY GOODBYE!

KIT, HURRY UP! GIMME MY PASSPORT, QUICK! I GOTTA CATCH THE SHIP!

THEY WOULDN'T GIVE IT TO ME, BOSS! YOU CAN'T SAIL TO IRELAND!

WHAT? WHAT THE BLAZES ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? MY WIFE'S DYIN', I TELL YA! MAYBE IF I GET THERE AND SHE SEES ME, IT'LL MAKE HER LIVE! SHE'S THE ONLY THING IN THE WORLD TO ME, KIT! WHY WON'T THEY GIVE ME MY PASSPORT? WHY? WHY? WHY?

BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU ARE, BOSS! THEY DON'T ISSUE PASSPORTS TO RACKETEERS!

BERRYL... OH, BERRYL! IT WASN'T WORTH IT, BABY! IT WASN'T! I'VE GOT NOTHING... NOTHING... CAUSE I ONLY WANTED YOU... AND NOW IT'S TOO LATE... BERRYL! BERRYL!

FOR PETE'S SAKE! LOOKIT THAT BIG BABY! SO THAT'S NICK DORGAN--THE BOSS!

YEAH. LIKE A PUNK, AIN'T HE?

WHEN HIS WIFE DIED NICK WROTE TO HER PARENTS, ASKING FOR HIS SON! AT LEAST THAT WOULD GIVE HIM SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR SO THAT WHAT HE HAD DONE WOULD BE WORTHWILE! THE ANSWER CAME....

Nick:
Beryl's last wish was that we would keep young Pat and bring him up as an honest, law-abiding man ...the kind she wanted you to be, but weren't. We have adopted the boy as our own and you'll never see him again, especially since you didn't think enough of your wife to see her on her death bed...

THAT WAS THE LAST STRAW! AFTER THE TOTAL LOSS OF HIS FAMILY NICK DORGAN GREW EVEN MORE BITTER, RUTHLESS AND CRUEL, LOSING HIS MISERIES IN HIS CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES!

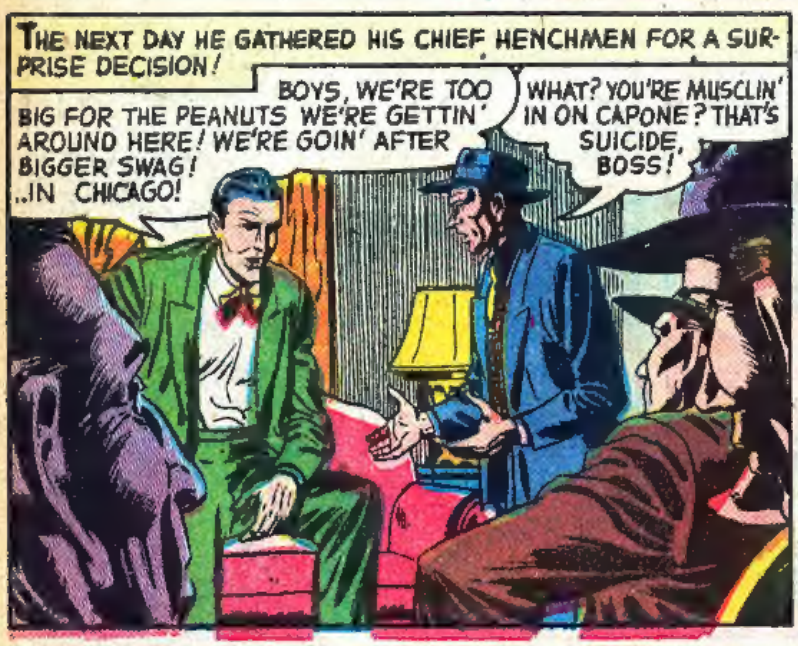
BUT, NICK, WHY BLOW THE JOINT UP JUST CAUSE HE WON'T BUY BEER? JUST TWIST HIS ARM! HE'LL TAKE IT!

PLEASE, MR. DORGAN! DON'T WRECK MY PLACE! I'LL SWITCH TO YOUR BEER!

NAH! IT'S TOO LATE! BLOW IT UP!

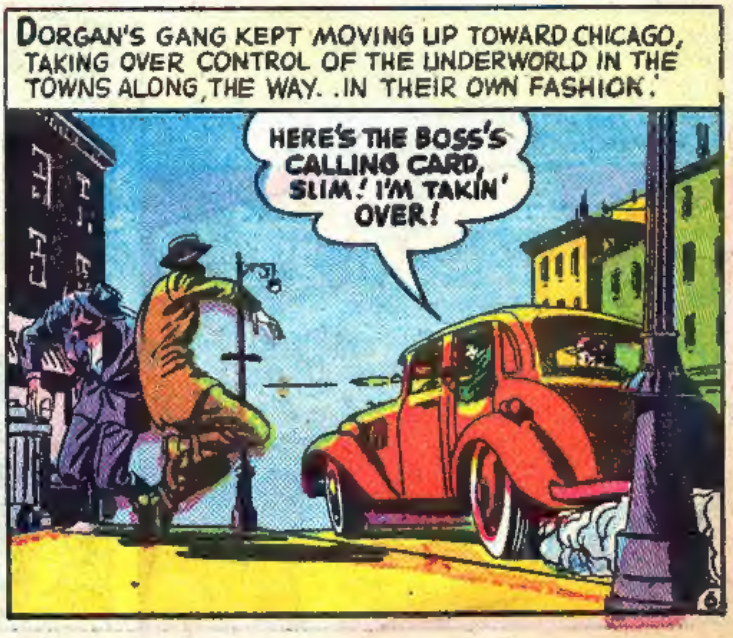
HA! HA! HA! DAT'LL TEACH YAH TO CROSS THE BIG BOSS! YEAH! I'M THE BOSS, SEE? THE BOSS!
HE'S CRACKIN' UP, KIT!
YEAH!

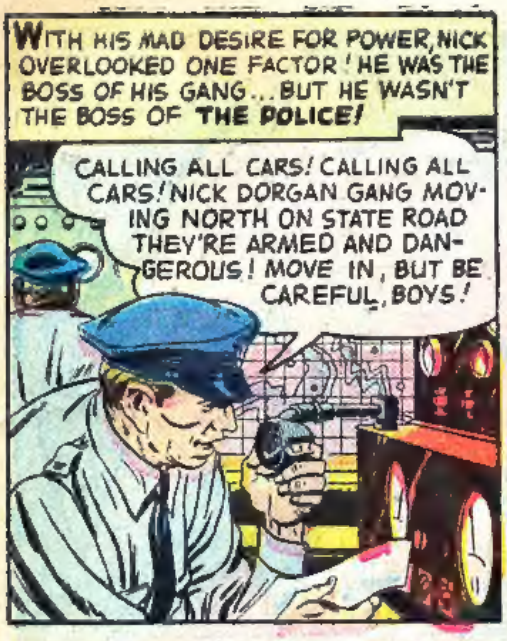
AT NIGHT, ALONE IN HIS ROOM, NICK SUFFERED ENDLESS AGONIES! HERE HE WAS NOTHING BUT A LONELY, FRIGHTENED MAN CRINGING IN THE DARK ...!
I GOTTA WORK HARDER! I GOTTA FORGET BERRYL AND THE KID! WHY DIDN'T I LISTEN TO HER ....AND QUIT? I GOT NOTHING! CRIME'LL NEVER PAY ME FOR MY TWO LOVED ONES! HOW WILL IT END?

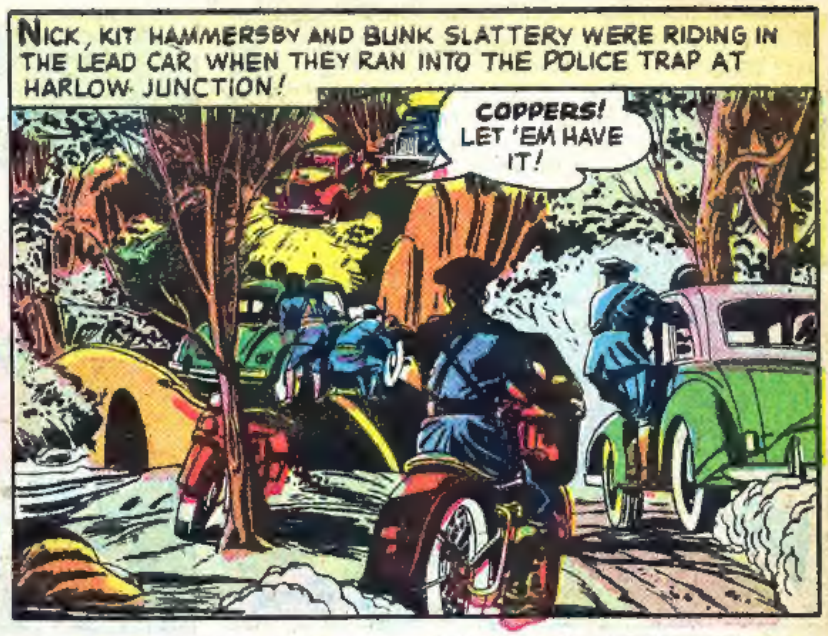

THE NEXT DAY HE GATHERED HIS CHIEF HENCHMEN FOR A SURPRISE DECISION!
BOYS, WE'RE TOO BIG FOR THE PEANUTS WE'RE GETTIN' AROUND HERE! WE'RE GOIN' AFTER BIGGER SWAG! ..IN CHICAGO!
WHAT? YOU'RE MUSCLIN' IN ON CAPONE? THAT'S SUICIDE, BOSS!

AREN'T YA FORGETTIN' SOMETHING, KIT? AREN'T YOU FORGETTING WHO I AM? I'M THE BOSS, KIT! THE BOSS! I GIVE THE ORDERS!
YEAH...YEAH! LAY OFF, BOSS! I DIDN'T MEAN NUTTIN'!

I GAVE UP A LOT TO GET WHERE I AM.... AN AWFUL LOT...AND I'M GOIN' STILL HIGHER! AFTER CHICAGO...NEW YORK! THEN NEW ORLEANS AND SAN FRANCISCO! I'M TAKIN' THE WHOLE COUNTRY OVER....'CAUSE I'M THE BOSS! AND DON'T NONE OF YAH FORGET IT!


DORGAN'S GANG KEPT MOVING UP TOWARD CHICAGO, TAKING OVER CONTROL OF THE UNDERWORLD IN THE TOWNS ALONG THE WAY. .IN THEIR OWN FASHION.
HERE'S THE BOSS'S CALLING CARD, SLIM! I'M TAKIN' OVER!


WITH HIS MAD DESIRE FOR POWER, NICK OVERLOOKED ONE FACTOR! HE WAS THE BOSS OF HIS GANG... BUT HE WASN'T THE BOSS OF THE POLICE!
CALLING ALL CARS! CALLING ALL CARS! NICK DORGAN GANG MOVING NORTH ON STATE ROAD THEY'RE ARMED AND DANGEROUS! MOVE IN, BUT BE CAREFUL, BOYS!

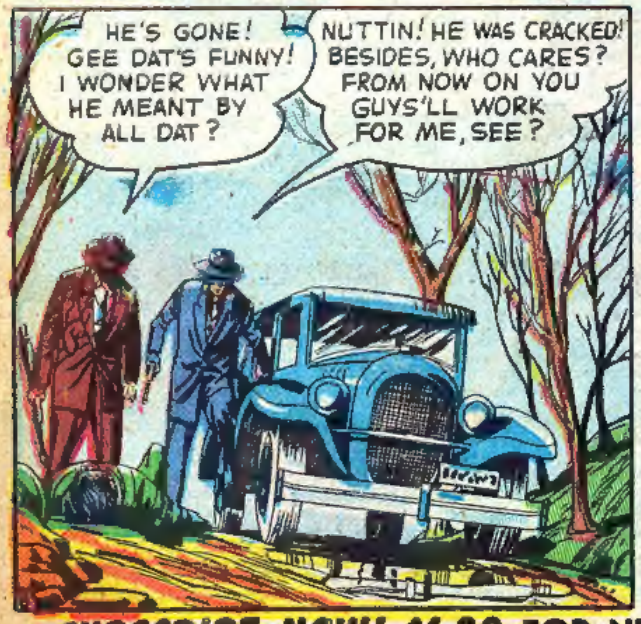

NICK, KIT HAMMERSBY AND BUNK SLATTERY WERE RIDING IN THE LEAD CAR WHEN THEY RAN INTO THE POLICE TRAP AT HARLOW JUNCTION!
COPPERS! LET 'EM HAVE IT!

THE PITCHED BATTLE BETWEEN POLICE AND MOBSTERS RAGED LIKE A FURY AS THE DESPERATE GUNMEN TRIED TO SHOOT THEIR WAY PAST THE POLICE CORDON!

SUDDENLY THE POLICE LIGHT THAT WAS FLOODING NICK'S CAR WAS SHOT! NICK SAW HIS CHANCE TO GET AWAY!
HURRY UP, BUNK, BEFORE THEY SPOT US! TURN RIGHT! THERE'S A DIRT ROAD! WE CAN MAKE IT! MOVE!
YEAH, BOSS!

AMAZINGLY ENOUGH, THE THREE DID GET AWAY, RIDING DIZZILY ALONG AN OLD DIRT ROAD HIDDEN IN THE WOODS!
HA! I'M STILL THE BOSS! EH, GUYS?

NOT ANY MORE YAH AIN'T! STOP THE CAR, BUNK
WHAT? HEY, WHAT IS THIS, KIT?
YEAH... WHATCHA TALKIN' ABOUT?



EDITOR'S NOTE: KIT HAMMERSBY DIED THE SAME AS NICK DORGAN A FEW MONTHS LATER... DOUBLE-CROSSED BY ANOTHER CHEAP HOOD WHO WANTED TO BE *THE BOSS!*

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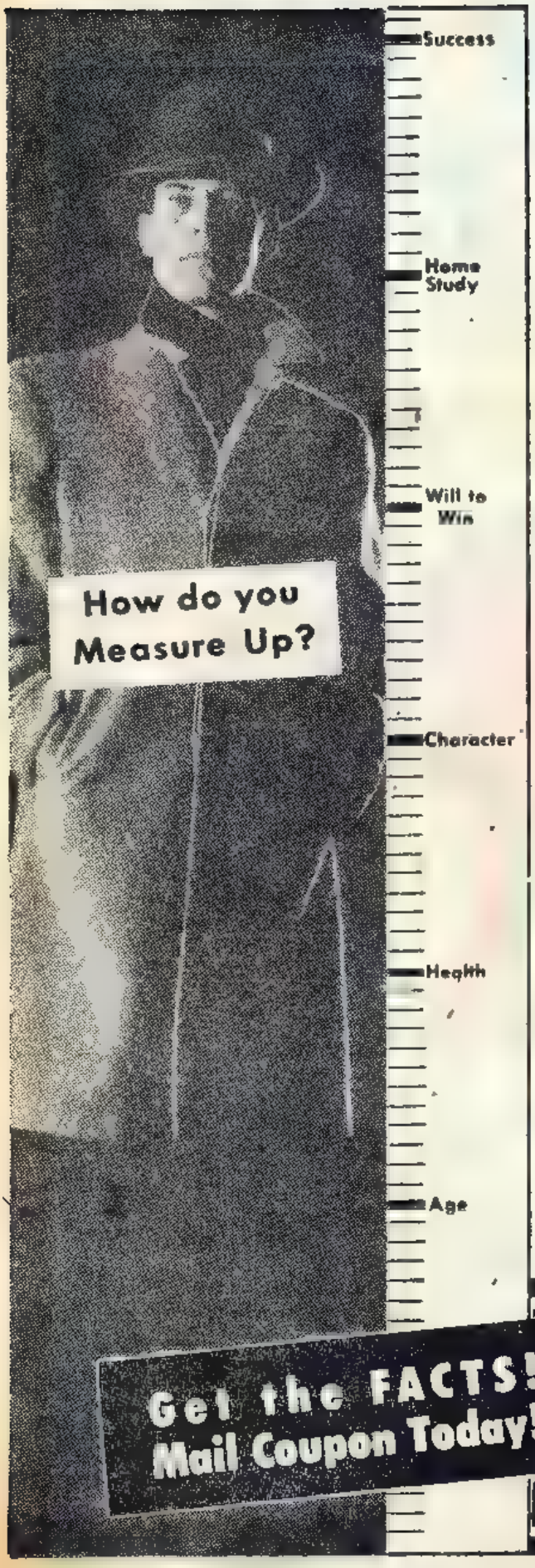
THE END



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Name

Address RFD or Zone

City State Age

THE MAN WHO DIED TWICE!

YOU BETTER DROP IT AND GET YOUR HANDS UP--OR DO YOU WANT TO JOIN YOUR TWO PALS?

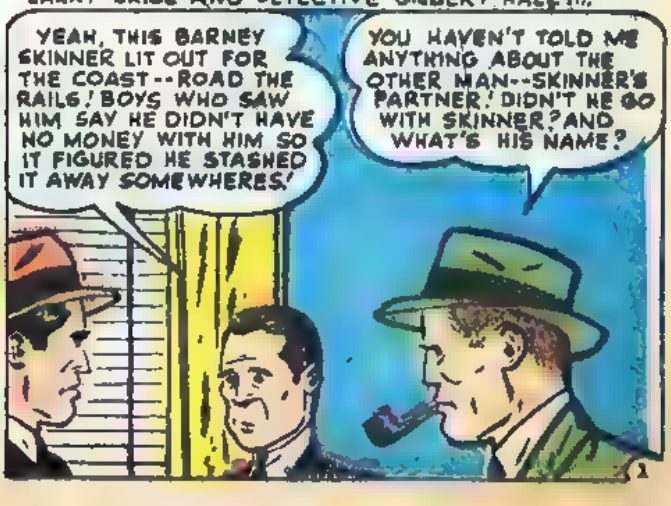
WATCH THAT OTHER ONE HE'S GETTING OUT TO THE BACK ALLEY!

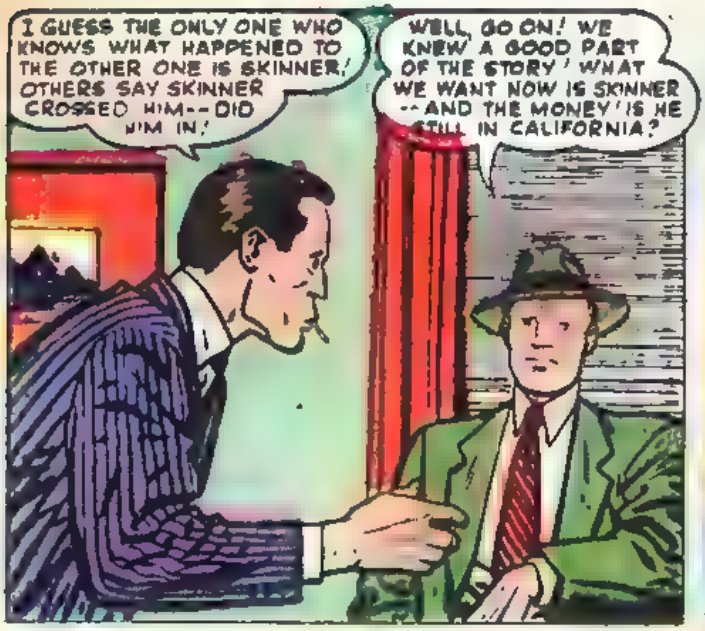
GO FLY A KITE, COPPER'S!

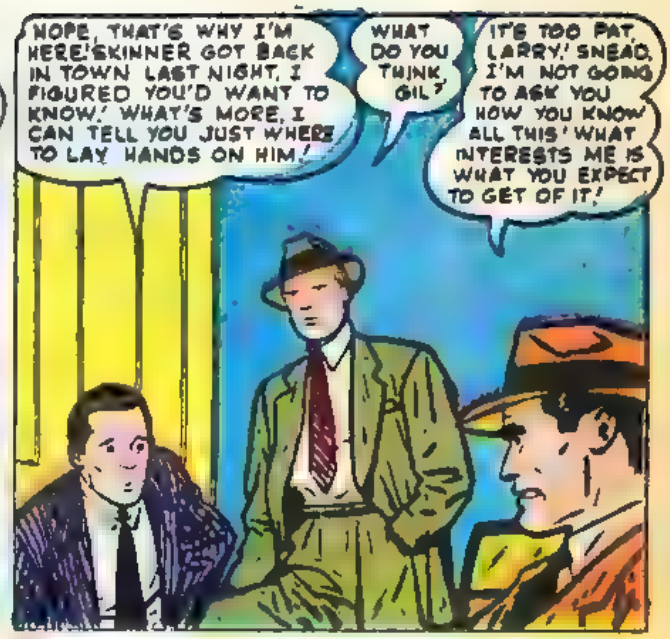
ANOTHER CASE PROVING CRIME MUST LOSE!

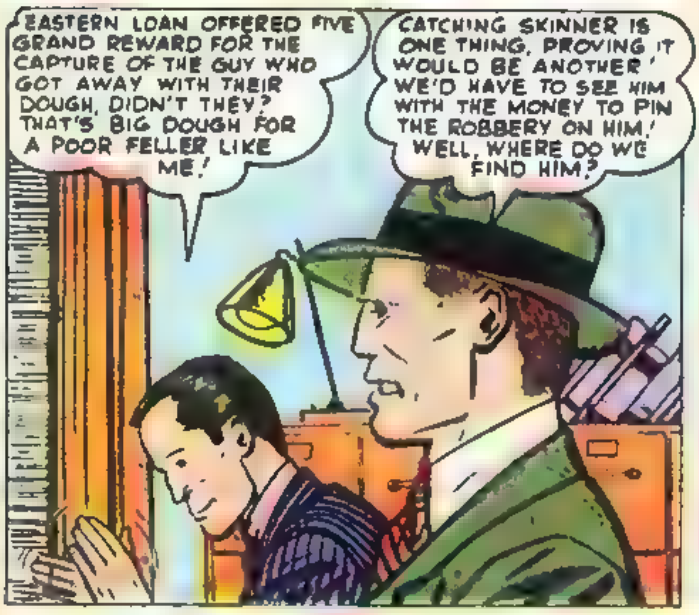
A STOOL-PIGEON MAY KNOW HIS WAY AROUND BUT PHIL SNEAD KNEW TOO MUCH! WHAT HE TOLD THE MINNEAPOLIS POLICE THAT DAY IN 1943 LED TO MORE THAN THE SAFE CRACKER WHO HAD GOTTEN AWAY WITH $100,000! IT LED TO THE MURDER OF A MAN WHO DIED TWICE!

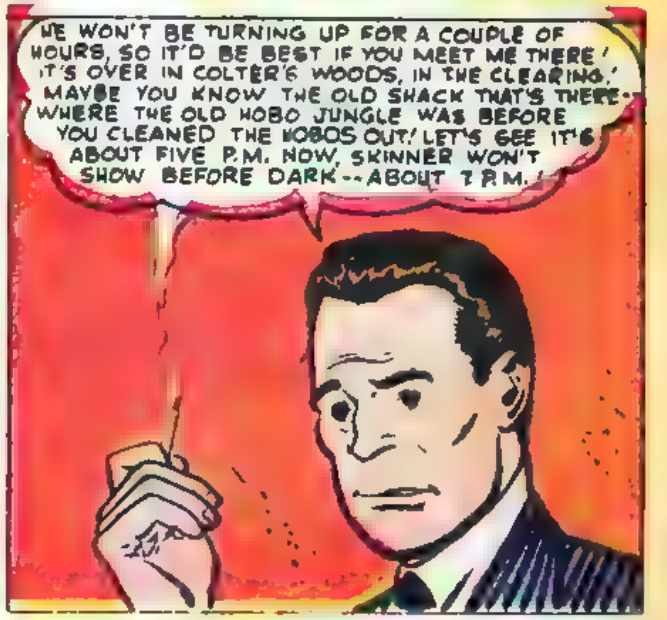
THE CRACKSMEN GOT AWAY, THE MONEY, $100,000, DISAPPEARED WITH AT LEAST ONE OF THEM! A YEAR PASSED. THE PUBLIC FORGOT ABOUT THE HOLD-UP! THE POLICE DIDN'T! THAT'S WHY THEY WERE KEENLY INTERESTED IN THE INFORMATION BEING OFFERED TO THEM BY STOOL-PIGEON, PHIL SNEAD... THEY BEING DETECTIVE LIEUT LARRY BRICE AND DETECTIVE GILBERT HALEY...

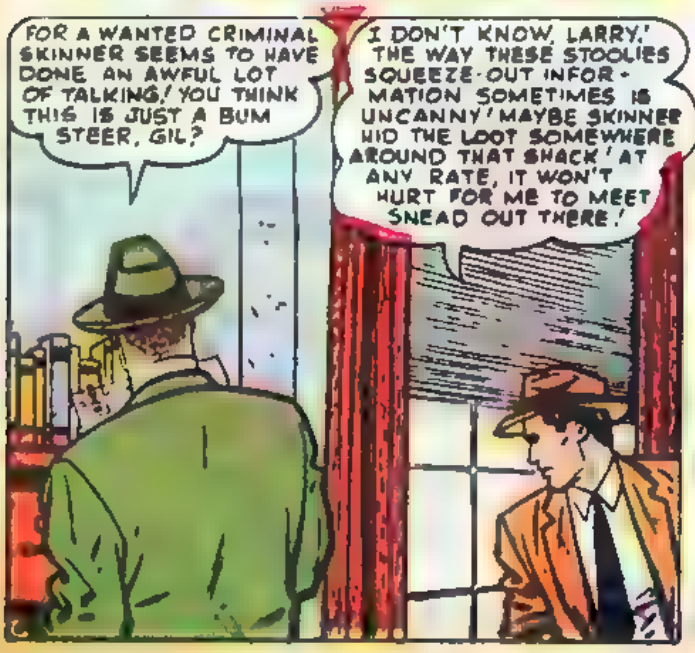



I GUESS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER ONE IS SKINNER! OTHERS SAY SKINNER CROSSED HIM--DID HIM IN!
WELL, GO ON! WE KNEW A GOOD PART OF THE STORY! WHAT WE WANT NOW IS SKINNER --AND THE MONEY! IS HE STILL IN CALIFORNIA?

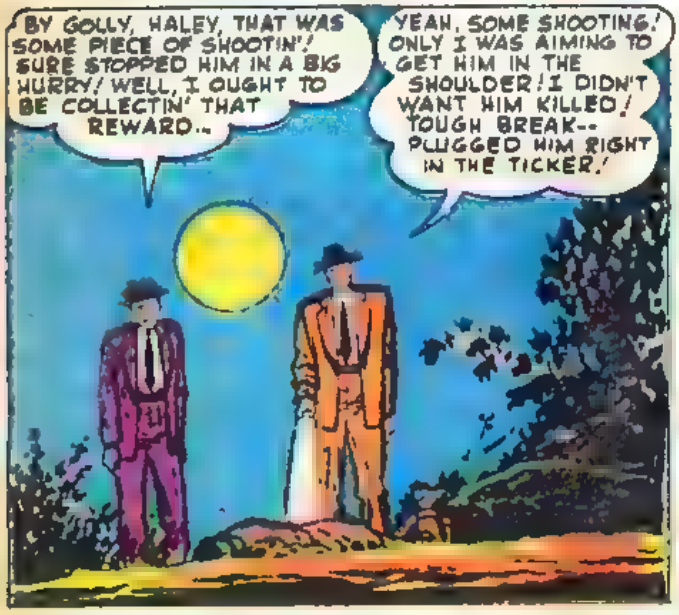

NOPE, THAT'S WHY I'M HERE! SKINNER GOT BACK IN TOWN LAST NIGHT. I FIGURED YOU'D WANT TO KNOW! WHAT'S MORE, I CAN TELL YOU JUST WHERE TO LAY HANDS ON HIM!
WHAT DO YOU THINK, GIL?
IT'S TOO PAT, LARRY! SNEAD, I'M NOT GOING TO ASK YOU HOW YOU KNOW ALL THIS! WHAT INTERESTS ME IS WHAT YOU EXPECT TO GET OF IT!


EASTERN LOAN OFFERED FIVE GRAND REWARD FOR THE CAPTURE OF THE GUY WHO GOT AWAY WITH THEIR DOUGH, DIDN'T THEY? THAT'S BIG DOUGH FOR A POOR FELLER LIKE ME!
CATCHING SKINNER IS ONE THING, PROVING IT WOULD BE ANOTHER! WE'D HAVE TO SEE HIM WITH THE MONEY TO PIN THE ROBBERY ON HIM! WELL, WHERE DO WE FIND HIM?

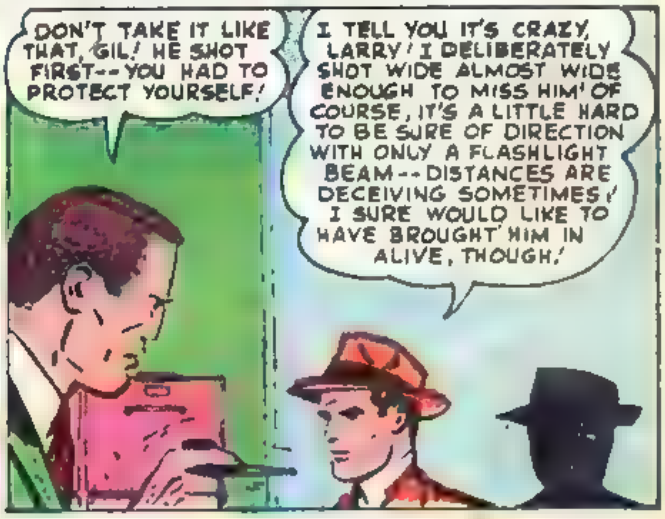

WE WON'T BE TURNING UP FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS, SO IT'D BE BEST IF YOU MEET ME THERE! IT'S OVER IN COLTER'S WOODS, IN THE CLEARING! MAYBE YOU KNOW THE OLD SHACK THAT'S THERE-- WHERE THE OLD HOBO JUNGLE WAS BEFORE YOU CLEANED THE HOBOS OUT! LET'S SEE IT'S ABOUT FIVE P.M. NOW, SKINNER WON'T SHOW BEFORE DARK--ABOUT 7 P.M.!

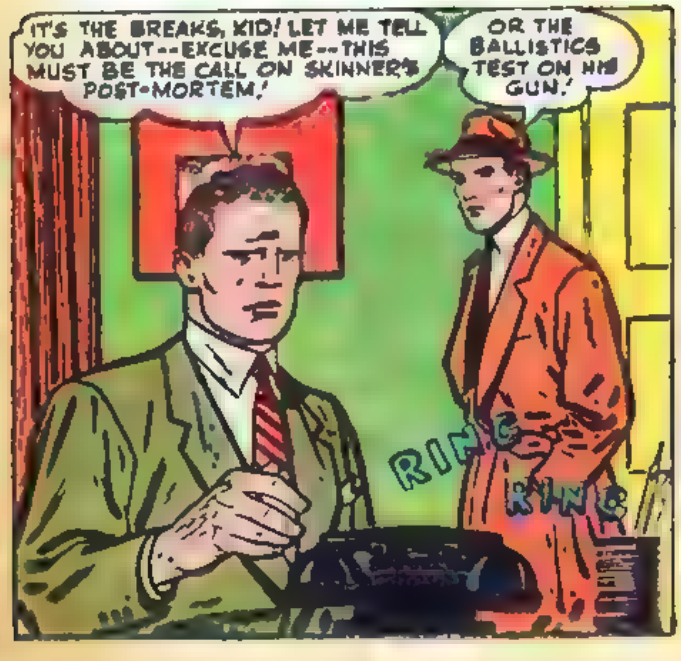

FOR A WANTED CRIMINAL SKINNER SEEMS TO HAVE DONE AN AWFUL LOT OF TALKING! YOU THINK THIS IS JUST A BUM STEER, GIL?
I DON'T KNOW, LARRY! THE WAY THESE STOOLIES SQUEEZE-OUT INFORMATION SOMETIMES IS UNCANNY! MAYBE SKINNER HID THE LOOT SOMEWHERE AROUND THAT SHACK! AT ANY RATE, IT WON'T HURT FOR ME TO MEET SNEAD OUT THERE!

DETECTIVE BRICE ARRIVED AT THE APPOINTED PLACE IN THE WOODS ABOUT TEN MINUTES TO SEVEN! THE MINUTES DRAGGED BY SLOWLY SEEMING LIKE HOURS!
SEVEN ON THE DOT-- AND NO SIGN OF SNEAD OR SKINNER! I'LL WAIT TILL HALF-- PAST, THEN...
HALEY! HE'S HERE-- HURRY! FOR GOSH SAKE...IF YOU'RE THERE HURRY, HALEY!

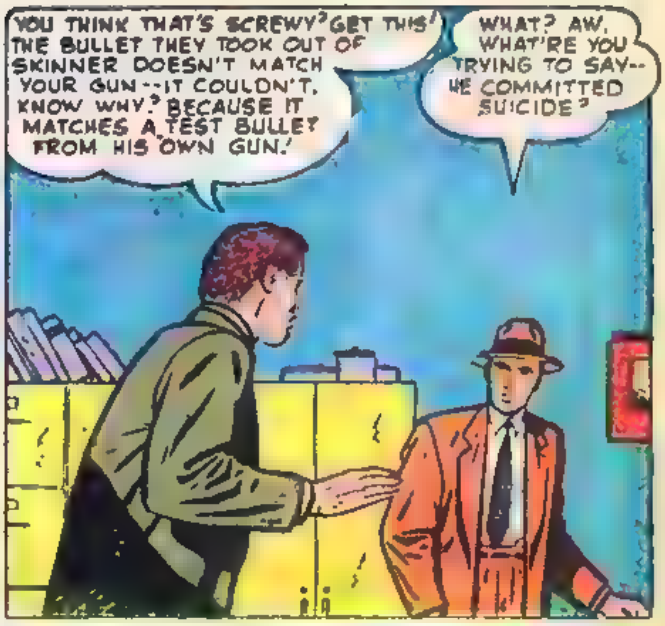


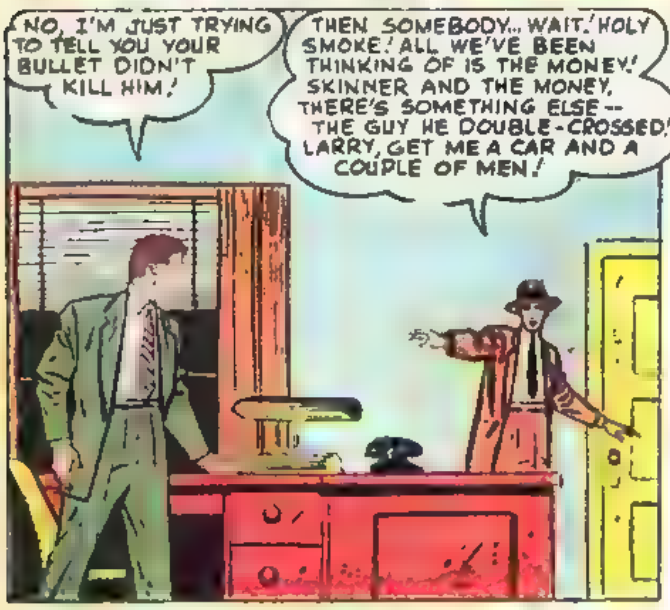
DETECTIVE GIL HALEY GOT BACK TO TOWN, CALLED THE MORGUE AND HAD THEM PICK UP BARNEY SKINNER'S BODY! BUT GETTING THEIR MAN WASN'T ENOUGH! THERE WAS STILL THE MONEY TO BE FOUND...

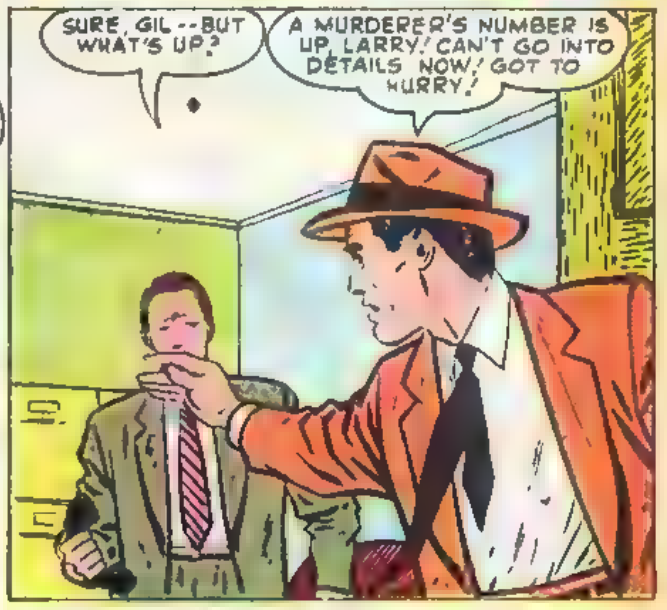




THAT WAS THE LAB, GIL! THEY SAY THEY FOUND A LENGTH OF ROPE DANGLING FROM THE BACK OF SKINNER'S BELT! DOES THAT MAKE SENSE TO YOU?
ROPE? HECK NO! SOUNDS SCREWY!


YOU THINK THAT'S SCREWY? GET THIS! THE BULLET THEY TOOK OUT OF SKINNER DOESN'T MATCH YOUR GUN--IT COULDN'T. KNOW WHY? BECAUSE IT MATCHES A TEST BULLET FROM HIS OWN GUN!
WHAT? AW, WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO SAY--HE COMMITTED SUICIDE?


NO, I'M JUST TRYING TO TELL YOU YOUR BULLET DIDN'T KILL HIM!
THEN SOMEBODY... WAIT! HOLY SMOKE! ALL WE'VE BEEN THINKING OF IS THE MONEY! SKINNER AND THE MONEY, THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE--THE GUY HE DOUBLE-CROSSED! LARRY, GET ME A CAR AND A COUPLE OF MEN!


SURE, GIL--BUT WHAT'S UP?
A MURDERER'S NUMBER IS UP, LARRY! CAN'T GO INTO DETAILS NOW! GOT TO HURRY!

15 MINUTES LATER, HALEY AND HIS MEN, HAVING DITCHED THEIR CAR ABOUT A HALF-MILE AWAY, MOVED QUIETLY UP TOWARDS THE DESERTED SHACK IN COLTER'S WOODS!
I THINK WE'RE IN TIME, SEE THAT LIGHT, THAT'S WHERE OUR MAN WOULD BE! I WANT HIM--ALIVE! WE'LL CIRCLE--SOME FROM STRAIGHT ON, OTHERS FROM BEHIND!
RIGHT--LET'S GO GET HIM!

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"I think NUMAL is wonderful My husband says I look better and I feel better"
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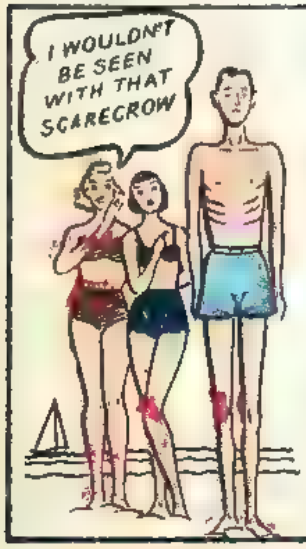

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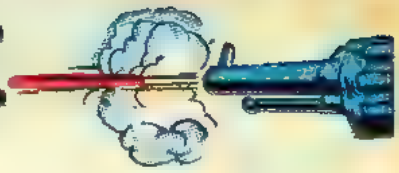
REVENGE FROM THE GRAVE



THEY were partners in crime, two of the most unlikely partners imaginable. Unlikely because they were different in tastes, attitudes and complete personalities. But unlikely most of all because they hated each other with a violent intensity that ate into their hearts, and each one knew that the other waited only for the moment when he could betray his partner—and kill him.

Joe Moreno was the brains. Tall, slender with a taste for literature and art, he had turned his ability into a scheming, plotting tool for the use of crime.

Gat Benson was the brawn, the hood, the heavy-handed mobster who did the killing, slugging and shooting that Joe's plans often required. He enjoyed it. He liked the feel of a gun in his hands, and the recoil when it was fired, and above all he liked the sight of an innocent victim crumpling to the ground with a shriek of pain. He liked it. And he hated Joe Moreno because Joe didn't like it, because Joe preferred the more subtle — artistic — methods of death and crime.

However, despite the fact that these men were mortal enemies, they made a good team. Others of the underworld called them, "the perfect combination." And they did well. They *earned* money, without once ever making that fatal mistake which would land them in the arms of the law. But they forgot that crime, and criminals, by their very nature had to lose. If the law didn't catch up with you, you caught up with yourself.

It was a nasty, rainy evening when Gat Benson drove his car into the driveway of Joe Moreno's hunting lodge. They had pulled off a bank-job in Dallas three days ago—Joe taking the loot to his hide-out, and Gat going to meet him there later—it was Joe's idea to split-up. But Gat had the feeling that more would take place this evening than just dividing the take; he had the feeling that only one of them would live to spend that dough.

The thought coursed through his mind. *Why should he split with Joe any more? Why not just kill him tonight, and make off with the entire payroll for himself? It would last twice as long that way.* The idea pleased him and he wondered, for a moment, whether Joe could possibly be thinking the same thing. He brushed the thought away. That guy was a coward. After all, wasn't it he, Gat, who did all the man's work in the stick-ups? He smiled. He could take care of himself when it came to knocking off Joe.

He reached the driveway of the lodge, and turned directly into the garage. He parked his yellow convertible alongside of Joe's black limousine.

Inside the lodge, Gat found Joe lounging on a couch, drinking wine. He glared at Joe with contempt.

"Boy, you really are some character," sneered Gat.

"Have some wine, Gat."

"I don't drink that sissy stuff."

Joe shrugged his shoulders and took a sip from his glass. "I see you got away safely."

"Yeah, and I can see you're just cryin' with happiness to see me."

Joe's lower lip curled in an ugly grin. "You know I wish they'd gotten you. In fact, one of these days I'm going to get you myself."

Gat pulled his gun from his pocket. "Oh yeah, well maybe I'll let you have it now."

"Oh, put it away! That's the trouble with you. Always with the roughhouse. You never think of anything but physical violence."

This attitude of Joe's always made Gat feel a little ashamed. He lowered his gun. "Well, you said that you were going to kill me."

"Yes, but when I do, it is won't be with a gun, or a club. It will be in a [illegible] more subtle way. I assure you."

Gat glared at his partner in a way that showed the hate he felt. "Let's split up the dough and get it over with. I don't like to stand around talking to you. You make me sick."

Joe laughed. "Come, come now. Sit down and relax. We can at least be friendly enemies —before one of us kills the

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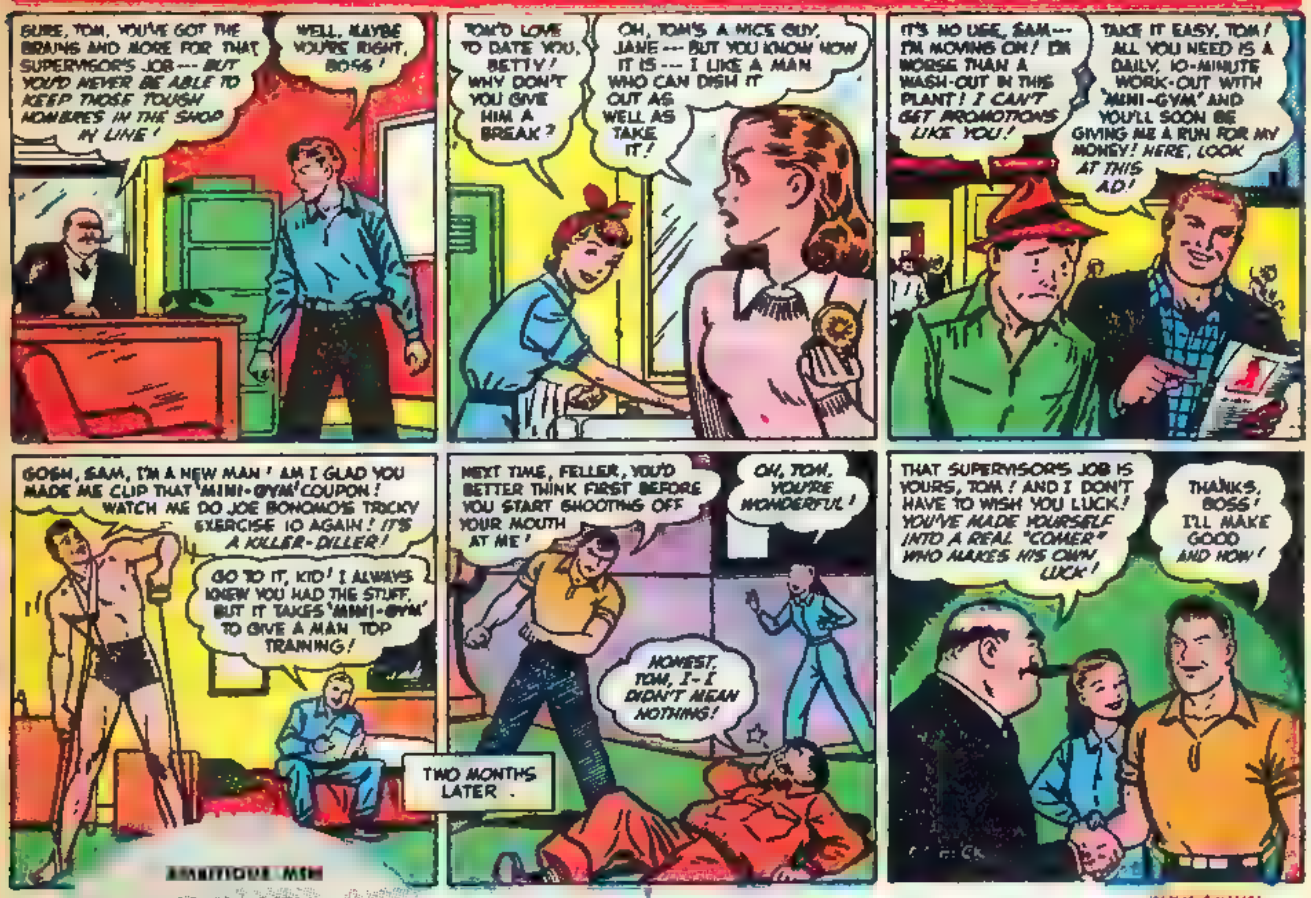
HOW 'MINI-GYM' TURNS PLANT "DRIP" INTO SUCCESS DYNAMO



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other. Here come on and have a glass of wine. There's some ice. You can help yourself."

The big muscleman looked at the bottle standing on the table and a suspicion ran through his mind. He smiled, and picked up the wine, filling a clean glass for Joe to drink.

"Here, you drink first. I want to make sure it's not poisoned."

Joe looked a little surprised, and then he lifted the glass to his lips.

"See? No poison?"

Gat grunted. "Well, with a guy like you, who's out to kill me. I can't take any chances." He filled his own glass from the same bottle, took a couple of cubes of ice, and sipped the cool *bordeaux*. "M-m-m-m, not bad."

Joe said: "There, you see? It's not bad to live well, in comfort, and enjoy all the better things of life. What's money for, if not to spend?"

Gat poured some more wine into his glass, and it was going to his head. "C'mon. 'Nuff of these lectures. Le's get the dough out and divvy-up."

"Sure, Gat. Sure. Just wait here, I'll go out and get it. It's in the study, in my safe." He strode out of the room, leaving Gat alone.

While he was gone, Gat checked the clip of his automatic. Just in case that smart guy intended to try anything. He wondered if it would be difficult to do away with Joe now, and get away with all of the loot. It certainly would be the best solution to the whole mess. He knew that Joe would kill him the first chance he got. Probably planning the whole thing out now. No! He would have to beat that cunning fox to the punch.

Joe came back into the living-room carrying two black suitcases.

"Well, here's enough dough to live on for five more years for both of us." He set them down on the table, and opened them. They were filled with packages of crisp green bills.

"This," said Gat, "is the way to make a living. No working in a dull job, or anything like that. Just a little risk, and then bingo. You're rich."

Joe looked at him coldly. He said: "But what if you die?"

Gat looked at him scornfully. "I *don't*. Gat Benson don't die."

"But what if you do?"

"I don't like it when you talk that way." He pulled his gun out again. "It makes me think that you got some sneaky scheme up your sleeve. And I don't think I'm going to wait to find out about it. I think I'm going to let you have it now."

"Don't be silly. Put that gun away."

Gat didn't answer him. He just started to squeeze the trigger.

"No, Gat! No!"

A shot rang out, and the air was quickly filled with the smell of gunsmoke. Joe Moreno crumpled to the ground. There was a look of disbelief on his face—as if at the last moment he felt that he'd been betrayed.

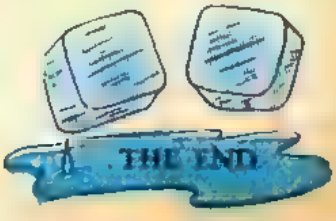
"That's for you, Joe. And now I just think I'll collect our two little suitcases and take off.

Fifteen minutes later Gat Benson was driving his yellow convertible down Highway 109. He chuckled to himself how clever the whole set up was. There was no one to tie him up with Joe Moreno; no one knew that they'd been friends — Joe had always made sure of that—and no one would know he'd been to Joe's place tonight. Before he'd left, Gat arranged things to make it look like a suicide. And now he had enough money to last him for ten years, at least, living in fancy style.

It was getting stuffy. . . .

He felt it difficult to breathe.

His hands began to tremble and it was hard to control the wheel. He started to gasp for air, and then suddenly he knew that he'd been poisoned. How? When? His hands went limp from the wheel, and the car swerved, heading for the embankment that would topple it down the cliff. Before the car crashed, Gat knew. Joe had poisoned the ice that Gat always took in his drinks. . . . .



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THE MAN WHO NEVER FORGOT!

NO, NO, PLEASE! I'VE GIVEN YOU EVERYTHING YOU'VE WANTED! DON'T... ARGHH!

BANG!

BANG!

FOOL! OUR GOVERNMENT DOES NOT TOLERATE MISTAKES! YOU MUST PAY FOR YOURS!

TIME: 1946
PLACE: NEW MEXICO!

AN UNCANNY MEMORY AND A WARPED AMBITION... THESE STARTED KLAUS FUSE ON THE PATH OF TREACHERY AND CRIME! A PATH... WHICH EVERY CRIMINAL LEARNS.. CAN ONLY LEAD TO VIOLENT DISASTER!

SINCE AUGUST 1945, WHEN THE FIRST ATOM BOMB WAS UNLEASHED TO DEFEAT FORMIDABLE FORCES OF EVIL, THE MEN OF U.S. GOVERNMENT "PLANT X" WORKED CONTINUOSLY TO GUARD ITS PRECIOUS SECRETS FROM OUR ENEMIES! BUT ONE OF THEM KLAUS EMIL FUSE, SHARED NONE OF THEIR SELFLESS DEVOTION... HIS ONLY GREEDY THOUGHT... WAS HIS OWN SUCCESS!

TWO YEARS! FOR TWO YEARS! I'VE WORKED HERE... AND I'M NO HIGHER THAN WHEN I STARTED! JUST AN OFFICE CLERK!

LABORATORY
SCIENTISTS ONLY

AND THEM! THE SCIENTISTS! THEY'RE THE ONES WHO GET THE MONEY! SCIENTISTS, MY FOOT! I'M JUST AS SMART AS THEY ARE! YEAH, EVEN SMARTER! WHY, I COULD...

FUSE, BRING ME FORMULA 202, PLEASE!

FULFILLING HIS EMPLOYER'S REQUEST, FUSE'S SULLEN THOUGHTS BETRAYED THEMSELVES IN HIS GLOWERING FACE...

ABOUT FUSE, STEWART... WHY DO YOU KEEP HIM? HE SULKS LIKE A BIG BABY ABOUT HIS WORK! ACTS LIKE HE'S DOING YOU A BIG FAVOR!

RELAX, GEORGE! HE IS OKAY! IT'S JUST THAT HE FLUNKED THE SCIENTISTS' EXAM! WANTS TO JOIN THE REGULAR STAFF... BUT COULDN'T PASS THE NUCLEAR TEST!

HE'S KIND OF A SURLY CHAP, I ADMIT! BUT WITH HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY, I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE HIM! FUSE JUST LOOKS AT A FORMULA AND KNOWS IT BACKWARDS! I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE HIM... SAVES US A LOT OF TIME, SEARCHING FILES!

JUST THE SAME, GENE, I DON'T LIKE HIM... OR HIS SUPERIOR ATTITUDE!

SCIENTIST GEORGE BENNETT WAS NOT WRONG IN HIS APPRAISAL! "SUPERIOR" WAS JUST WHAT KLAUS FUSE CONSIDERED HIMSELF!

STEWART AND BENNETT! BIG SHOTS AROUND HERE! JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE A LITTLE MORE BOOK KNOWLEDGE! BUT I'M SMARTER! YES, I'LL SHOW 'EM! I'LL PROVE THAT I'M BETTER THAN THEY!

ATOMIC PROJECT LABORATORIES

EMBITTERED AND FRUSTRATED, KLAUS FUSE WAS EASY PREY FOR THE SINISTER FORCES WHO CONSTANTLY SEEK WILLING PAWNS... IN THEIR UNSCRUPULOUS CONSPIRACIES!

YES, COMRADE FUSE! OUR GOVERNMENT PAYS WELL FOR INFORMATION! THE KIND OF INFORMATION A CLEVER MAN CAN SECURE!

CLEVER! OF COURSE! THAT'S WHAT I AM! JUST GIVE ME A CHANCE... I'LL SHOW YOU HOW CLEVER I AM!

FALSE-FLATTERY AND SPURIOUS ADMIRATION WERE SOOTHING BALM FOR FUSE'S WHIPPED EGO!

THERE YOU ARE, FUSE! A SMART MAN LIKE YOU IS NEVER UNREWARDED BY MY GOVERNMENT! MY SUPERIOR SHALL HEAR ABOUT YOUR FINE WORK!

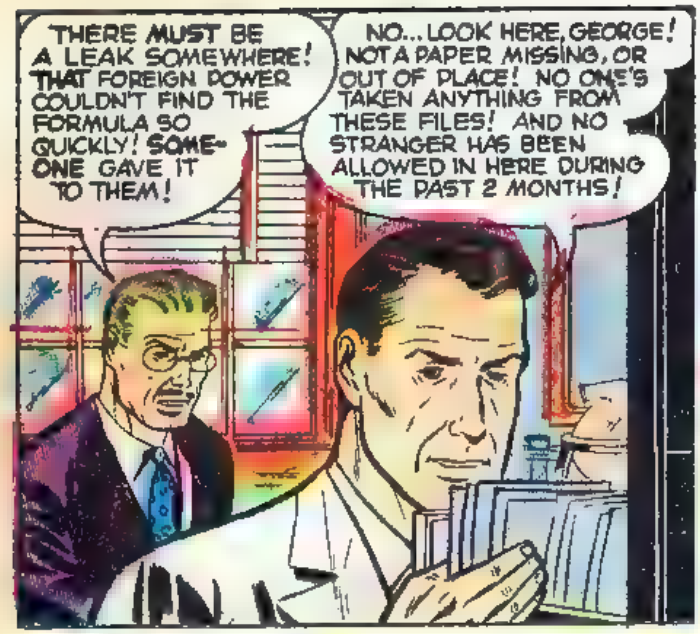
THANK YOU, COMRADE!

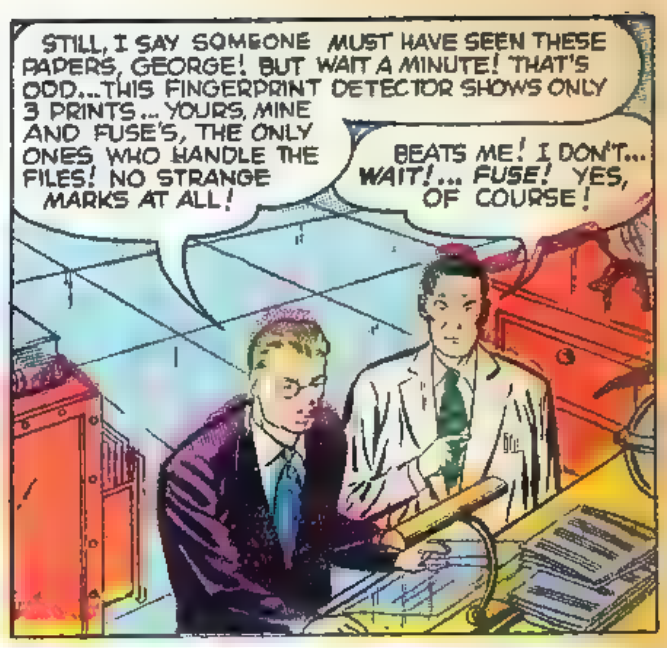
HA, HA... THIS IS MORE LIKE IT! I'M GETTING RICH AND THEY APPRECIATE MY BRAINS!

FOR WEEKS, FUSE SUPPLIED VITAL INFORMATION TO THE ENEMY, UNDETECTED WORKING WITH HIGHLY SECRETIVE FORMULAE. HE WAS ABLE TO THEORIZE THEM AND TRANSMIT THEM ACCURATELY! BUT ONE AFTERNOON, ON AUGUST 16, 1946, GEORGE BENNETT RECEIVED STARTLING NEWS FROM WASHINGTON D.C.!

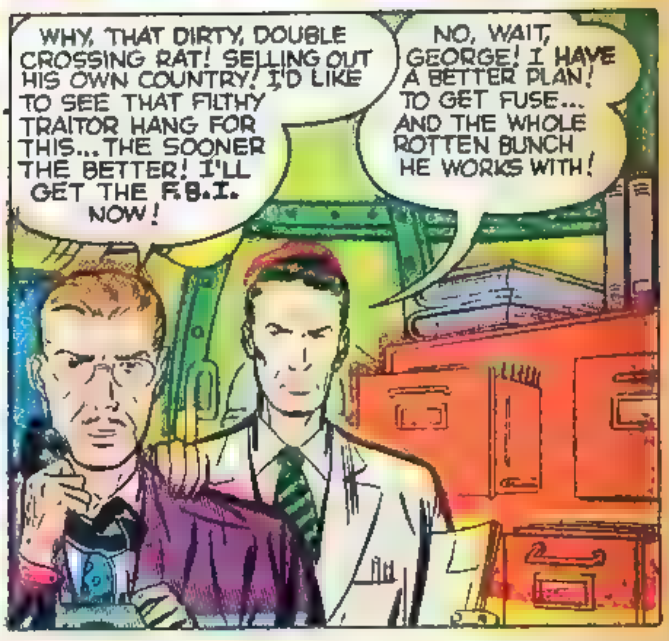
HERE, GENE! LOOK AT THIS! A GOVERNMENT REPORT... AN IRON CURTAIN COUNTRY HAS FORMULA XH2C!

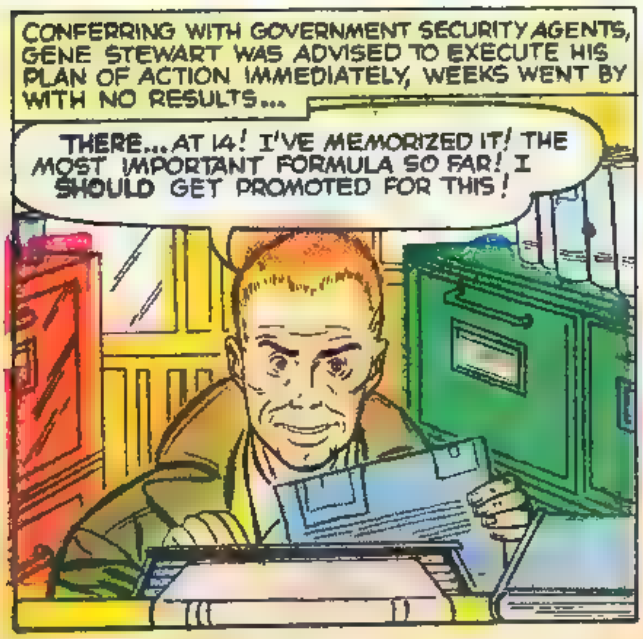
WHAT? BUT... HOW? HOW COULD THEY? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! WE DISCOVERED IT! PREVIOUS REPORTS NEVER MENTIONED ANY OTHER COUNTRY WORKING ON IT!

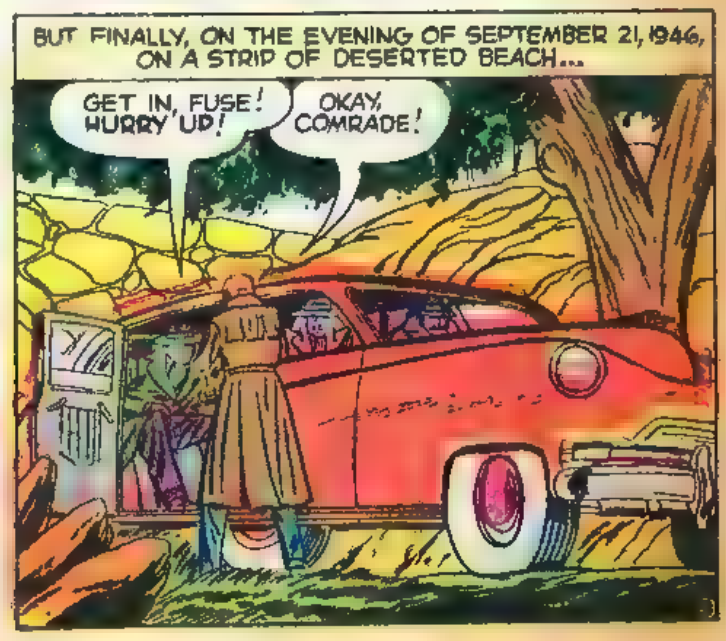

THERE MUST BE A LEAK SOMEWHERE! THAT FOREIGN POWER COULDN'T FIND THE FORMULA SO QUICKLY! SOMEONE GAVE IT TO THEM!
NO... LOOK HERE, GEORGE! NOT A PAPER MISSING, OR OUT OF PLACE! NO ONE'S TAKEN ANYTHING FROM THESE FILES! AND NO STRANGER HAS BEEN ALLOWED IN HERE DURING THE PAST 2 MONTHS!

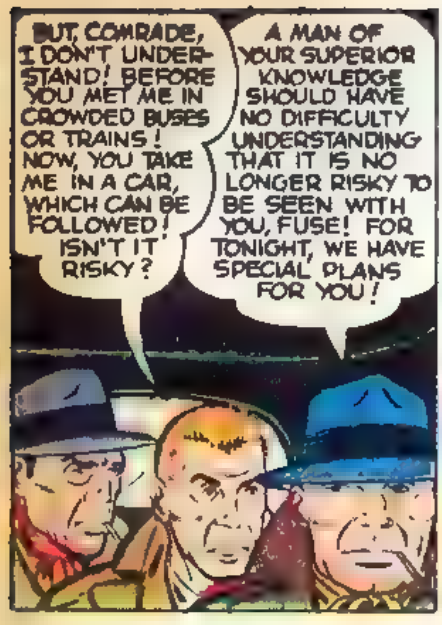

STILL, I SAY SOMEONE MUST HAVE SEEN THESE PAPERS, GEORGE! BUT WAIT A MINUTE! THAT'S ODD... THIS FINGERPRINT DETECTOR SHOWS ONLY 3 PRINTS... YOURS, MINE AND FUSE'S, THE ONLY ONES WHO HANDLE THE FILES! NO STRANGE MARKS AT ALL!
BEATS ME! I DON'T... WAIT!... FUSE! YES, OF COURSE!

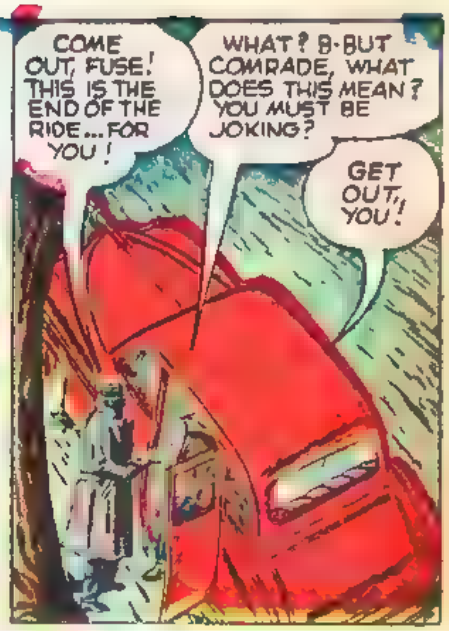
THAT'S RIGHT... FUSE! HIS MEMORY! YOU'VE HIT, GENE! YOU'VE FOUND THE LEAK!
ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS LOOK AT THE PAPERS! HE MEMORIZED THE FORMULAE, AND PASSED THEM ON!

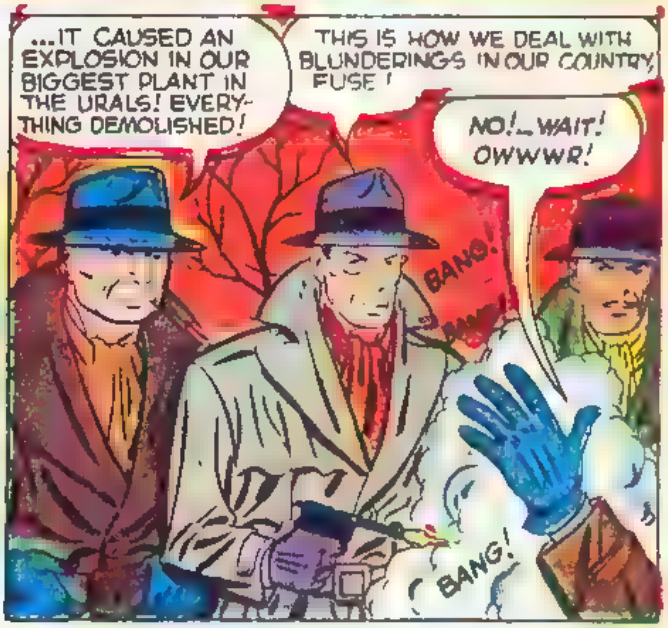

WHY, THAT DIRTY, DOUBLE CROSSING RAT! SELLING OUT HIS OWN COUNTRY! I'D LIKE TO SEE THAT FILTHY TRAITOR HANG FOR THIS... THE SOONER THE BETTER! I'LL GET THE F.B.I. NOW!
NO, WAIT, GEORGE! I HAVE A BETTER PLAN! TO GET FUSE... AND THE WHOLE ROTTEN BUNCH HE WORKS WITH!

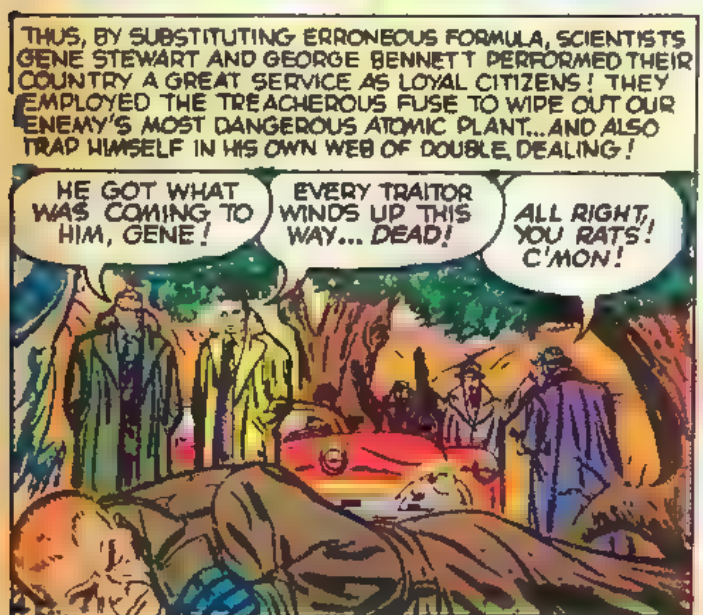

CONFERRING WITH GOVERNMENT SECURITY AGENTS, GENE STEWART WAS ADVISED TO EXECUTE HIS PLAN OF ACTION IMMEDIATELY, WEEKS WENT BY WITH NO RESULTS...
THERE... AT 14! I'VE MEMORIZED IT! THE MOST IMPORTANT FORMULA SO FAR! I SHOULD GET PROMOTED FOR THIS!


BUT FINALLY, ON THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1946, ON A STRIP OF DESERTED BEACH...
GET IN, FUSE! HURRY UP!
OKAY, COMRADE!









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THE GANGSTER!

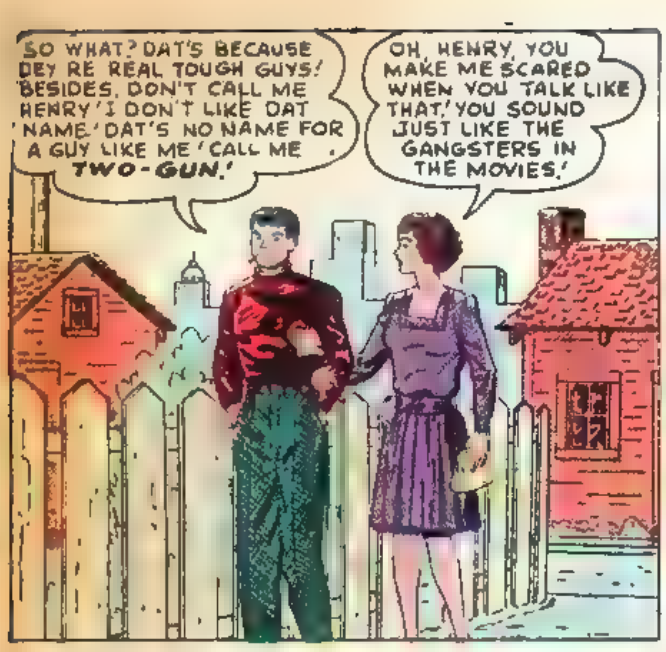
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY, PERRY! WE'VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED! COME OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP BEFORE WE COME AND GET YOU! WHAT'S YOUR ANSWER?

HERE'S MY ANSWER! NOBODY'S TAKIN' TWO-GUN PERRY!

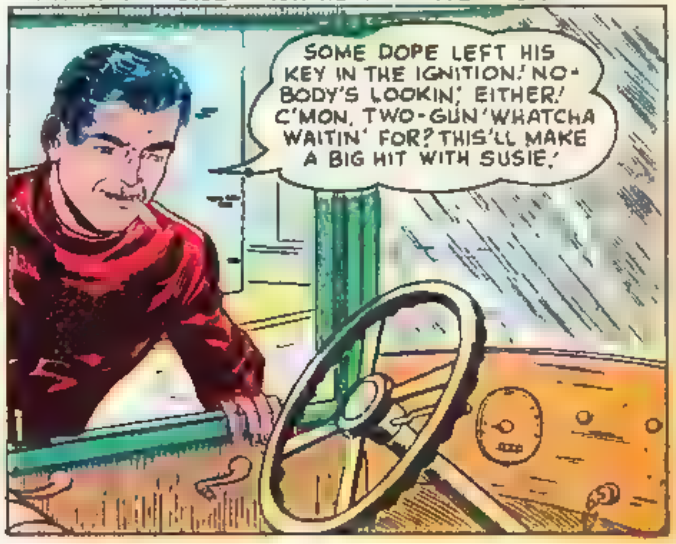
LOOSE ON THE STREETS OF THE BIG CITY WAS... THE TWO-GUN MAD-DOG KILLER! TIME: 1926! PLACE: NEW YORK A TRUE-CRIME STORY!

THE GANGS OF THE 1920'S RODE HIGH AND WIDE IN AMERICA DURING THE BOOTLEGGING DAYS! TOUGH HOODLUMS, ARMED WITH MACHINE GUNS, DEFIED LAW AND ORDER AND RAN AN EMPIRE OF CRIME AND GANG WARFARE!

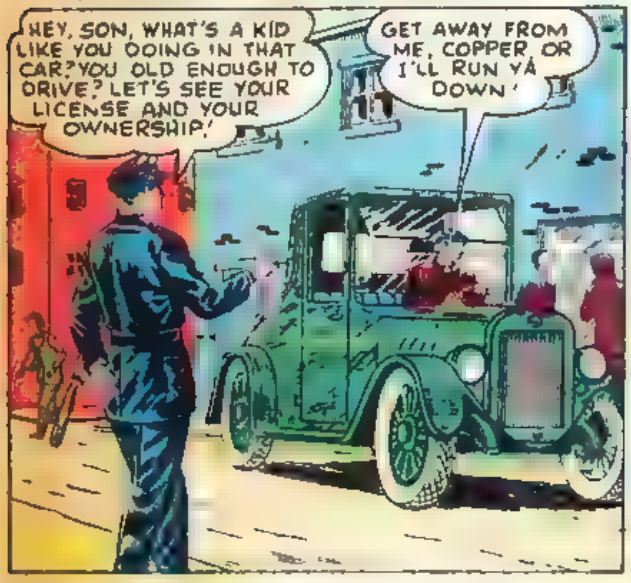
A PRODUCT OF THOSE TIMES, BROUGHT UP IN THE WORST SECTION OF HELL'S KITCHEN IN NEW YORK, WAS HENRY PERRY, WHOSE INFAMOUS NAME WAS TO BE SPLASHED ALL OVER THE FRONT PAGES OF AMERICA AS, *TWO-GUN PERRY!*



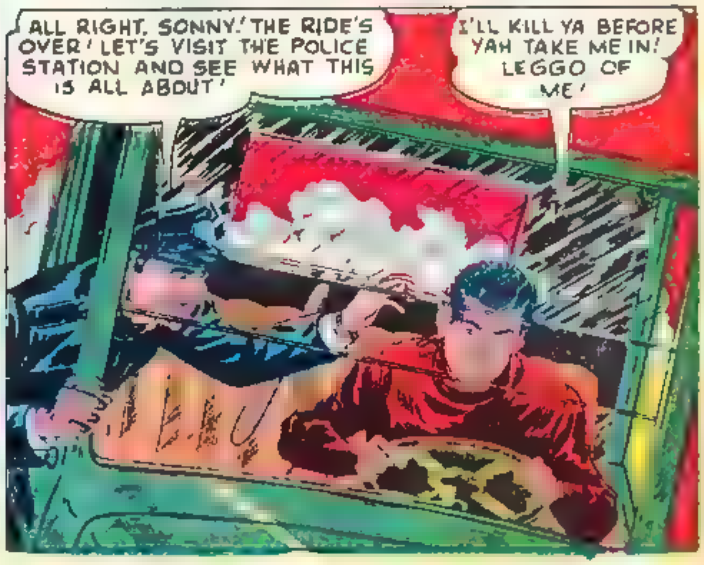
HENRY PERRY HAD TWO LOVES! THE GANGSTERS WHOM HE IDOLIZED .. AND GIRLS! HE'D DO ANYTHING TO IMPRESS THEM! THIS LED TO HIS FIRST KNOWN CRIME STEALING AN AUTOMOBILE WHEN HE WAS SEVENTEEN



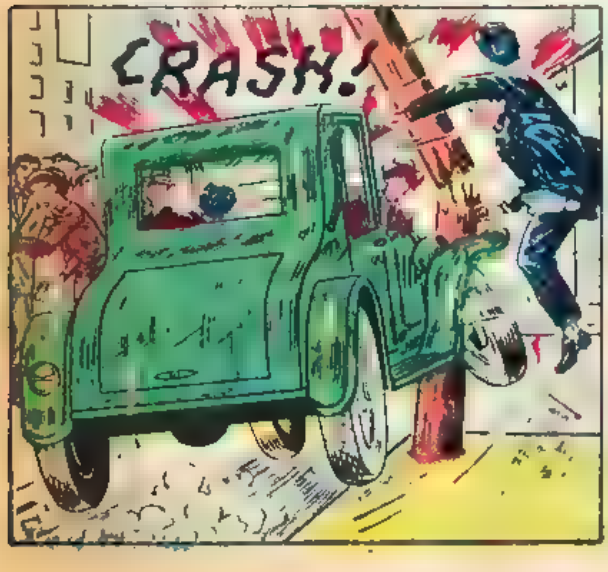
BUT HE WAS SPOTTED BY PATROLMAN KELCY AT BROADWAY AND 38TH STREET



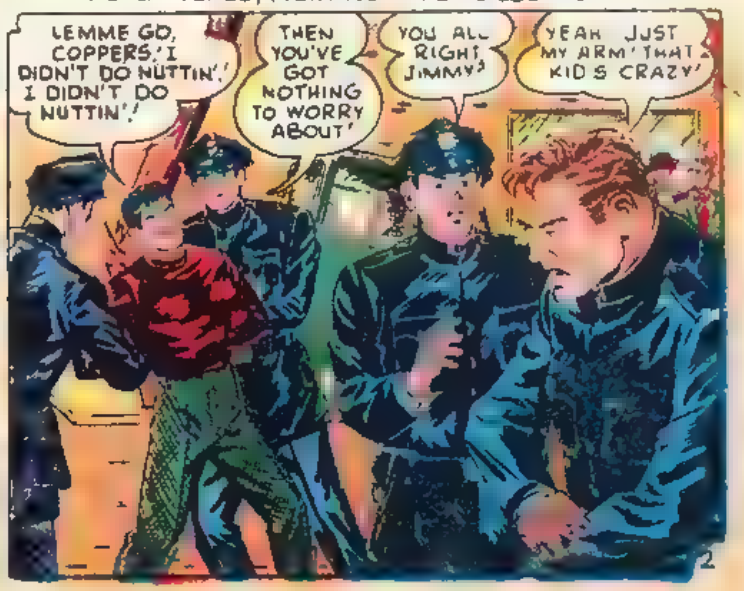
PERRY STEPPED ON THE GAS, ACTUALLY ATTEMPTING TO RUN DOWN KELCY, BUT THE COP SIDE-STEPPED THE CAR AND JUMPED UP ON THE RUNNING BOARD!



THE YOUNG DESPERADO TWISTED THE WHEEL CRASHING THE CAR INTO A POLE, JUST BARELY MISSING A GROUP OF PEDESTRIANS!

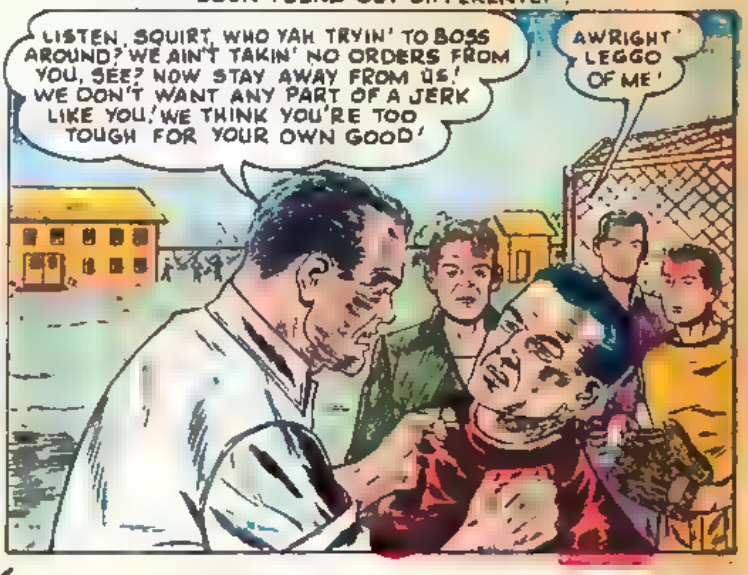


OTHER POLICE QUICKLY RUSHED ON THE SCENE AND PERRY WAS CAPTURED, FIGHTING HARD TO ESCAPE!

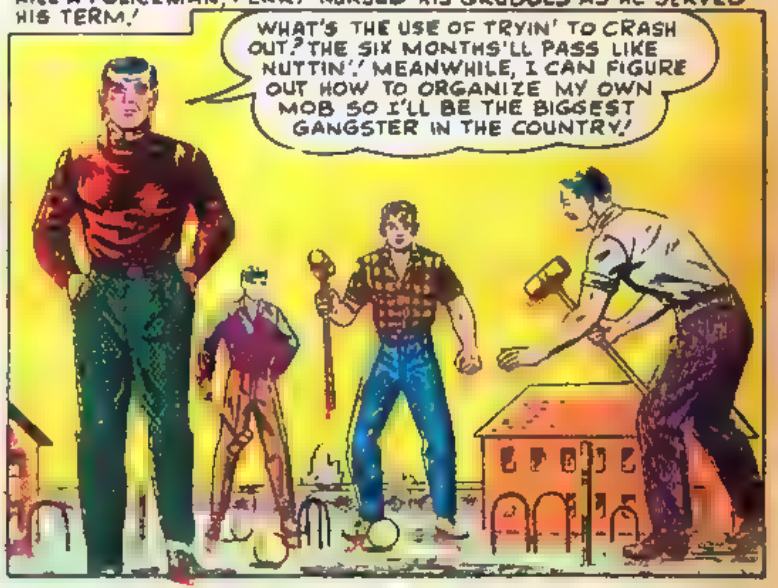


BECAUSE OF HIS YOUTH, THE JUDGE HAD SYMPATHY FOR HENRY PERRY AND GAVE HIM A LIGHT SENTENCE AT THE COUNTY REFORM SCHOOL WHICH HE ENTERED IN JUNE OF 1926

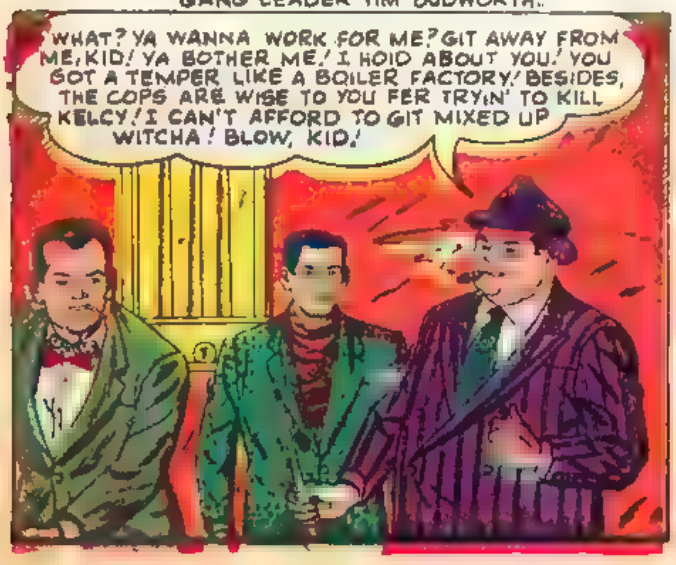
PERRY THOUGHT HE COULD TAKE OVER THE SCHOOL AND THE OTHER INMATES, RUNNING EVERYTHING THE WAY HE WANTED TO! HE SOON FOUND OUT DIFFERENTLY.



KNOWN AS A HOT-BLOODED, FOOLISH PUNK WHO HAD TRIED TO KILL A POLICEMAN, PERRY NURSED HIS GRUDGES AS HE SERVED HIS TERM!



IN DECEMBER, PERRY WAS RELEASED, EVEN TOUGHER THAN WHEN HE WENT IN! HIS AMBITIONS TO BE A GANGSTER, HOWEVER, MET A DEAD END WHEN HE WENT TO GANG LEADER TIM BUDWORTH.



REBUFFED AT EVERY TURN, PERRY DECIDED TO BE A LONE WOLF AND TO BE HIS OWN ONE-MAN GANG! THE FIRST STEP WAS TO BREAK INTO BOKAR'S PAWN SHOP ON TENTH AVENUE! AMONG THE LOOT HE ROBBED WERE TWO PISTOLS!

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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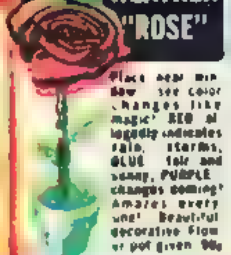
Your own initial in Rose Gold color effect lumite set on a BLOOD RED stone flanked by 2 sparkling pseudo DIAMONDS imported from Europe. Pin made in 14 Karat Rolled Gold plate very fashionably designed and in appearance.

Gift of Gifts Price
Enjoy a lifetime of handsomely masculine so distinctive! Must or letter desired and send strip of paper for size. Bargain price 2.97

AMAZING WEATHER "ROSE"



Place near window, see color changes like magic! RED at foggy indicates rain, storms, BLUE fair and sunny, PURPLE changes coming! Amazes every one! Beautiful decorative figure not given 98c

2 IN 1 CASE & CIGARET LIGHTER

Slim handsome combination case and built in Gas Fine Lighter. No more fumbling around for cigarettes or matches! Bargain price 1.88

"Ladies" SPORTS WATCH

Special!

A sturdy accurate watch with special jewel movement, ideal for active women and girls, nurses, teachers, sportswomen, typists, housewives, etc. Case is dainty yet so sturdy! Has luminous hands and numbers for night reading. So feminine and petite yet so accurate too! 10-Day MONEY BACK Guarantee and conditional free service certificate. Bargain price 7.97

BIG POWERFUL "DISCOVERY" AIR

Now you can own and enjoy Rocket's most POWERFUL and very BEST FIELD GLASS at a special LOW PRICE! Well made of rugged metals and has specially ground magnification lenses. Such PHENOMENAL POWER you won't believe your eyes! Get an intimate view of nature, the sky at night, the birds, mountains, etc.

GO PLACES AND SEE THINGS!

Get a close-up of that neck-to-neck finish of the races, the flashing uppercut of the boxer, the quick pass down the football field, seashore scenes, etc. See what your neighbors are doing without being seen!

Special SALE price, only . 2.88

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Gentlemen: Please rush the articles below. I will deposit price shown with mailman on arrival, plus postage. I will use and enjoy them for 10 days. Anytime I am not satisfied, you will refund my money. (We prepay postage on cash orders)

NAME OF ARTICLE DESIRED	PRICE

NAME (Please print) _____

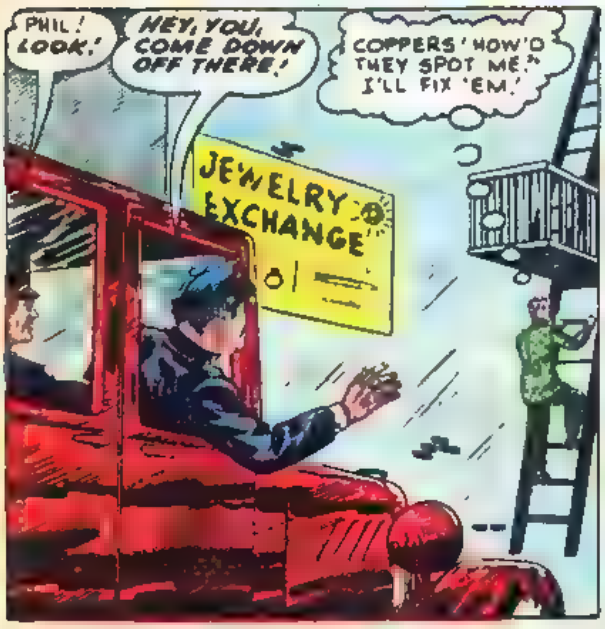
ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____

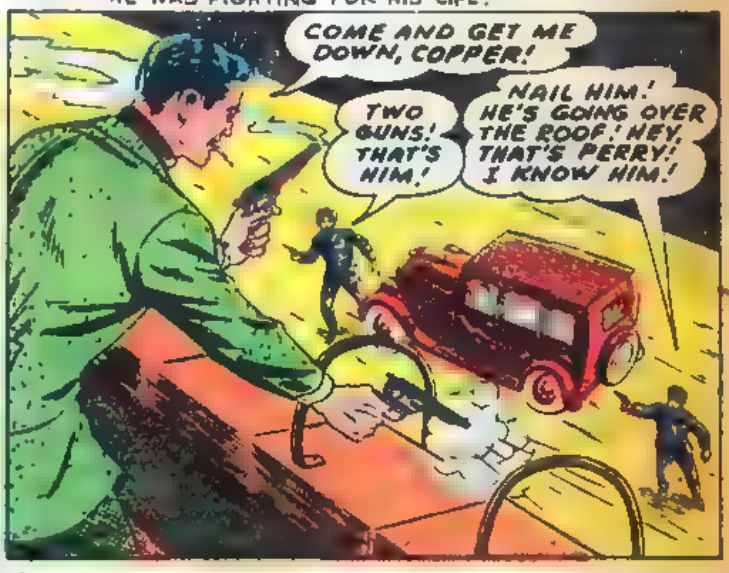
PLEASE! Send ring sizes on this strip of paper wrapped around finger.

AFTER HIS FIRST ROBBERY, AND WITH THE TWO REVOLVERS GIVING HIM ADDED CONFIDENCE IN HIMSELF, PERRY GREW BOLDER, ADDING MORE ROBBERIES AND HOLD-UPS TO HIS LIST.

WORD CAME TO THE POLICE OF A TWO-GUN BANDIT, A LONE WOLF OF CRIME, AND THEY WERE ALERTED TO WATCH OUT FOR HIM.

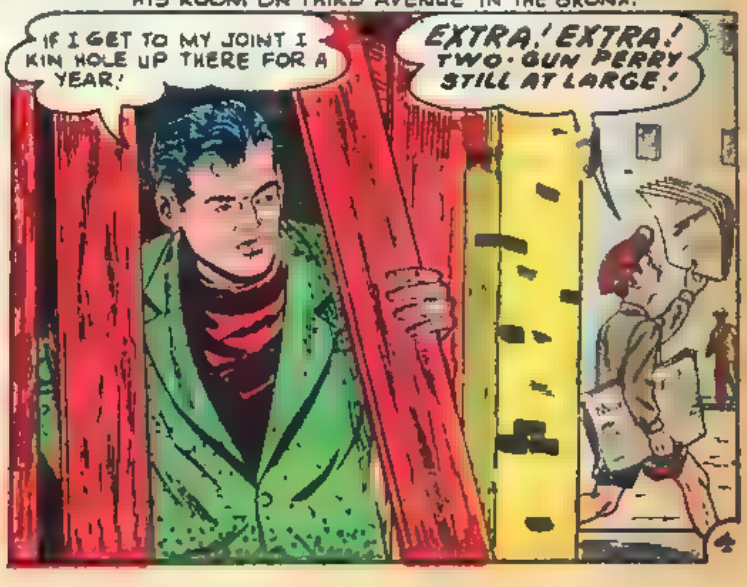


THIS WAS AT A JEWELRY EXCHANGE ON FOSTER STREET. PERRY HAD PICKED IT AS A GOOD SPOT TO ROB, BUT NOW HE WAS FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE!

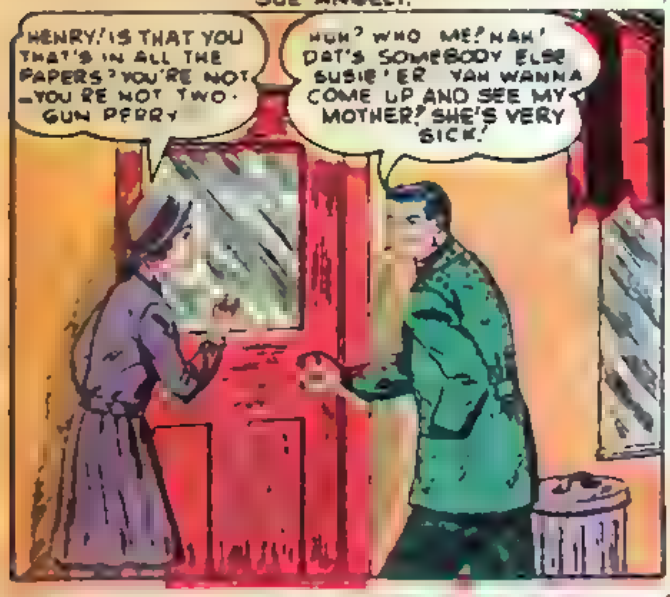


PERRY ESCAPED IN A HAIL OF POLICE BULLETS! BUT THE ALARM WAS OUT! KELCY HAD RECOGNIZED HIM!

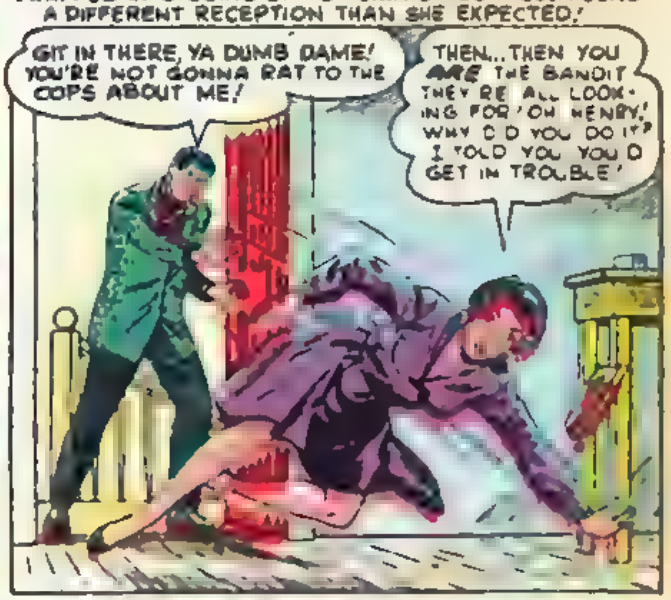
HUNTED LIKE THE MAD DOG HE WAS, TWO-GUN PERRY DUCKED ALONG ALLEYS AND BACKWAYS, TRYING TO GET TO HIS HIDE-OUT, HIS ROOM ON THIRD AVENUE IN THE BRONX!

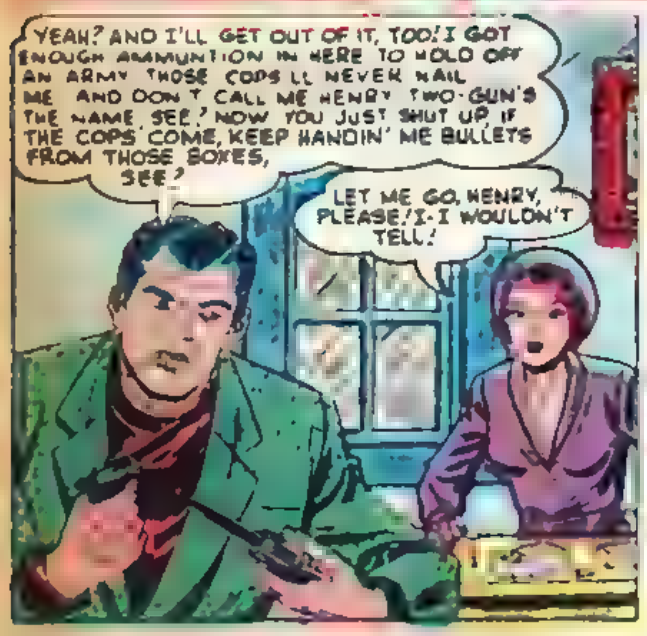


AT THE DOOR OF HIS APARTMENT HOUSE PERRY RAN INTO SUE ANGELI!



TRAPPED INTO GOING UP TO PERRY'S ROOM SUE FOUND A DIFFERENT RECEPTION THAN SHE EXPECTED!

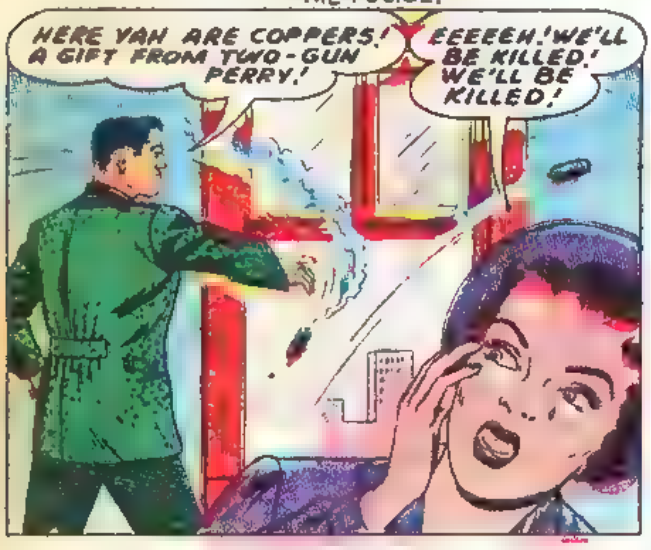


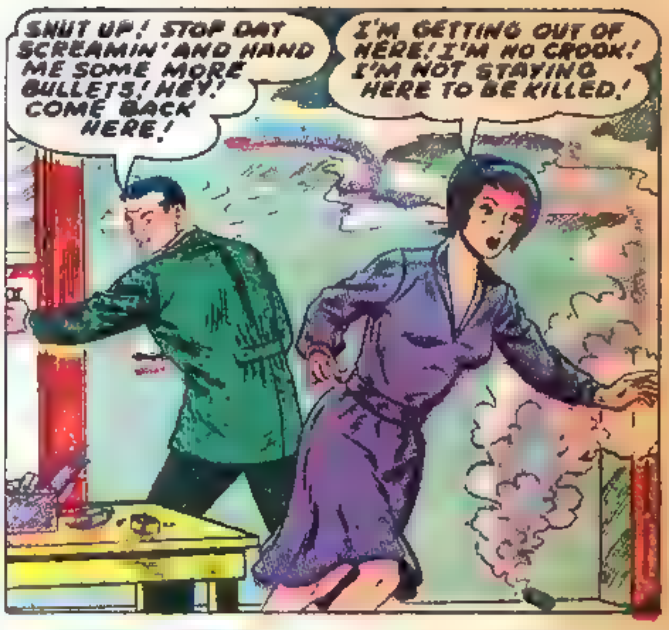


BUT OTHERS HAD SEEN PERRY! WORKING QUIETLY THE POLICE HAD THROWN A CORDON AROUND THE BLOCK AND HAD TAKEN POSITIONS ON THE ELEVATED TRACKS AND ON THE ROOFS AND WINDOWS OF THE SURROUNDING BUILDINGS!

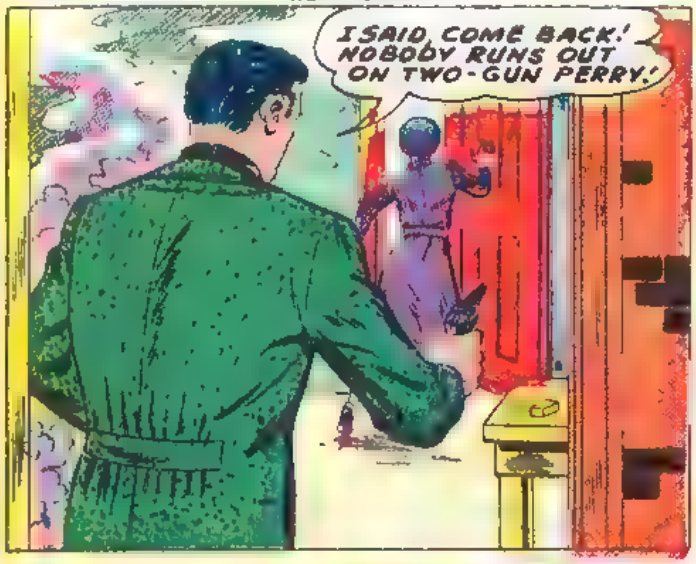
POLICE CAPTAIN LAURENCE GAMIN, IN CHARGE OF THE DETAIL, CALLED UP TO PERRY THROUGH A LOUDSPEAKER..

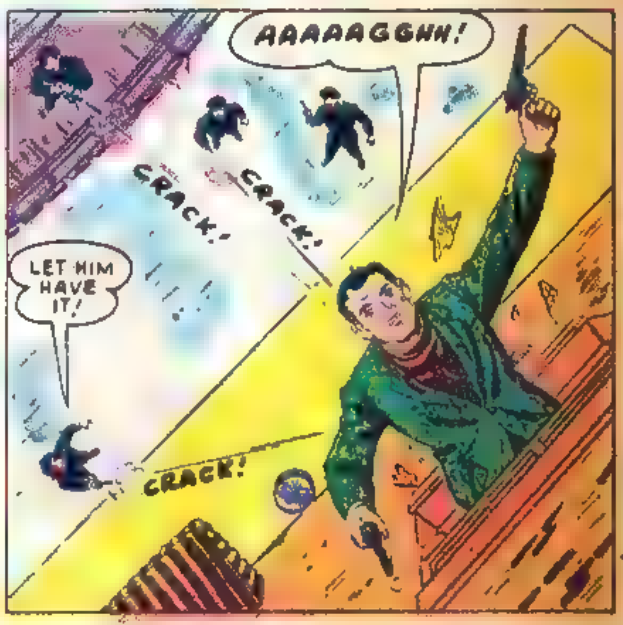
THE POLICE TRIED EVERYTHING TO DRIVE PERRY OUT WITHOUT ENDANGERING SUE! THEY TOSSED TEAR GAS BOMBS INTO THE WINDOWS, BUT PERRY THREW THEM BACK AT THE POLICE!

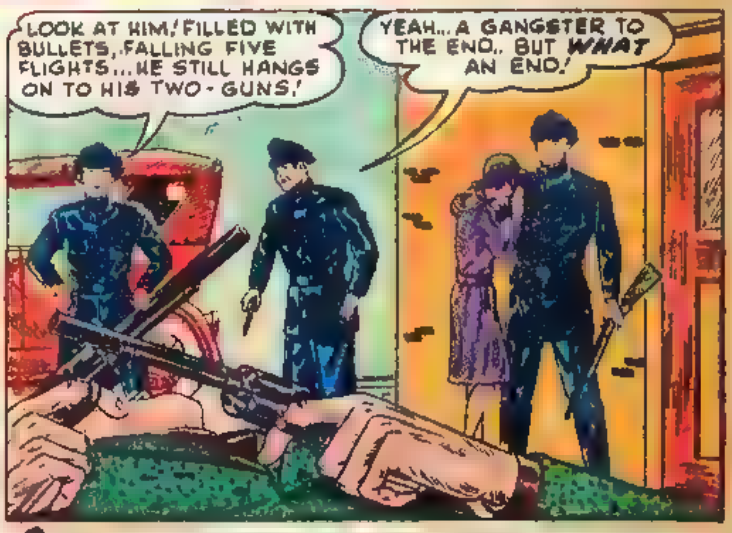




FOR THE FIRST TIME PERRY GOT CARELESS, TURNING TO FIRE AT THE ESCAPING GIRL, HE EXPOSED HIS BACK TO THE WINDOW...







SO WHEN HE WAS BARELY TWENTY, *FINIS* WAS WRITTEN TO THE CAREER OF A HOODLUM WHO CHOSE THE WRONG WAY TO MAKE A NAME FOR HIMSELF!

THE END

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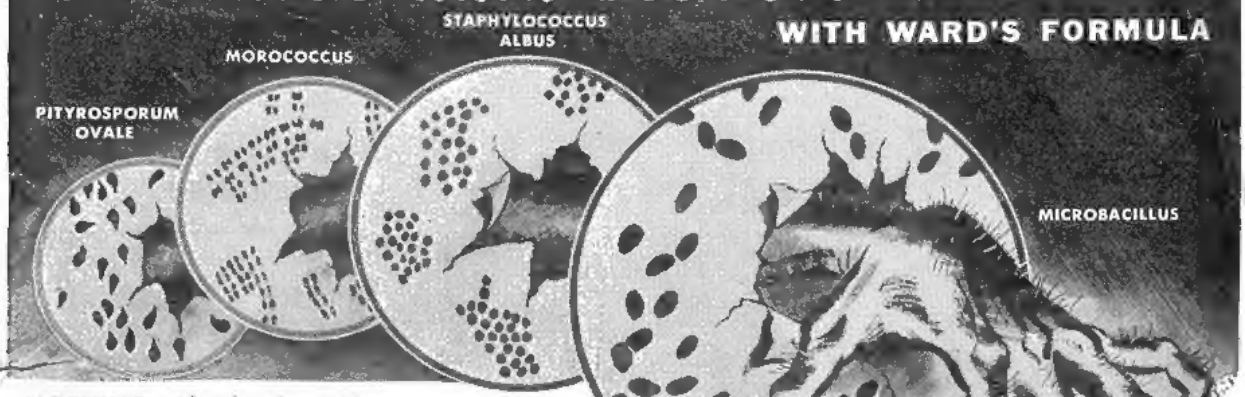

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Take pounds off—keep slim and trim with Spot Reducer! Remarkable new invention which uses one of the most effective reducing methods employed by masseurs and turkish baths—MASSAGE!

TAKE OFF EXCESS WEIGHT!

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